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## OPINION METER

This week's poll:

With 11 months to go before the transition period ends, do you support extending the CW program for foreign workers by 5 more years?

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## INSIDE

### LOCAL



Many of Garapan's prostitutes didn't choose to become so.

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### OFFBEAT



A lifelike sculpture of a sleepwalking man causes controversy.

► PAGE 22

## WELCOME TO TINIAN

Chinese tourists check a World War II remnant in front of the Tinian airport on Wednesday. The Marianas Visitors Authority said arrivals from China jumped 10 percent in December to 9,579 visitors, and a third-ranked source country for the CNMI.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is now preparing for submission to the Legislature a supplemental budget of "\$8 million to \$9 million," including \$5 million for the annual minimum guaranteed payment to the Retirement Fund settlement fund, the government health and life insurance plan, and possibly "\$200,000 to \$300,000" to refund members of the Commonwealth Government Employees Credit Union.

» **Proposal may include \$200K-\$300K for credit union members; Senate finds credit union account down to \$28K**

Meanwhile, senators yesterday found out from the credit union and the Finance Department that the credit union only has some

\$28,000 in its account and not \$60,000 as previously thought, with some \$2 million in unpaid obligations.

The governor made it clear the supplemental budget figures are "preliminary," and could still change a few times before they get to the Legislature.

Inos acknowledged that this is only "more than half" of what the administration was hoping for, to cover its obligations for fiscal year 2014 ending on Sept. 30.

"I'm putting it together. It's not going to be perfect," he said. See BUDGET on Page 4

## Bank of Guam in Yigo robbed at gunpoint

By JANELA BUHAIN CARRERA  
PACIFIC NEWS CENTER

GUAM—Two suspects remain at large in the armed robbery of the Bank of Guam in Yigo yesterday morning. Guam Police Department and agents with the FBI went on a manhunt for the two suspects who fled on foot in the jungle area toward Perez Acres.

GPD spokesman AJ Balajadia said both men were wearing masks when they held up the bank at gunpoint.

Police were led on a wild manhunt yesterday afternoon in and out of jungle areas in Yigo near the Bank of Guam. It was just before 10:30am when two men, brandishing handguns, walked into the Bank of Guam, demanding cash from tellers, according to Balajadia.

The two men, one wearing a black mask and the other wearing a red ski

See HOUSE on Page 4

## House OKs 99-year lease of public lands for NMDs

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A watered-down Article 11 initiative that passed the House of Representatives by a thread yesterday would, if also approved by the Senate, ask voters in November whether

» **Article 11 initiative heads to Senate**

they want to extend the current maximum 40-year lease of public lands to 99 years—but only for persons of Northern Marianas descent.

These include NMD corporations whose board of directors is composed of 100 percent NMDs, among

other things.

By a vote of 14-4 with two absences, House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero's (Ind-Saipan) House Legislative Initiative 18-5, House Draft 1 passed at 12:10pm yesterday after a lengthy and heated debate.

See HOUSE on Page 4

## Flores finally names Camacho acting mayor—with limits

By JAYSON CAMACHO  
jayson\_camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

After months of defiance, Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores finally complied with a local law that requires him to name the chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council as acting mayor whenever he goes off island.



Flores



Camacho

Yet in his Feb. 5 memorandum appointing Ramon B. Camacho as acting mayor, Flores enumerated limits on Camacho's power and authority, including instructions that he should not interfere in projects being done by the Saipan Mayor's Office staff.

Flores is on official business outside

See FLORES on Page 4

**CPUC suspends proposed standby charge for 8 hotels. PAGE 3**  
**Motion to suppress Crisostomo's footprints evidence denied. PAGE 5**

# Local

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## CPUC: We want to stay away from any 'politics'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
[moneth\\_deposa@saipantribune.com](mailto:moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission vows to maintain its independence and autonomy at all times and won't succumb to any pressure that may come its way, including "politics."

Commission chair Joseph Guerrero and members Dave Guerrero and Oscar Quitudua told *Saipan Tribune* this, expressing their united position not to meddle in politics involving the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

A resolution filed last week in the state House of Representatives recommends the removal of Alan Fletcher as CUC executive director. It cited the official's "poor record of performance."

"That's too political for us," Quitudua said.

This was echoed by his colleagues, who are convinced that the matter requires no attention from the regulatory body.

"It's beyond the scope of the commission's rule. The only thing I would say is this: stipulated orders and best practices is to hire qualified people. There's specific qualifications require for certain positions and all these needs the approval of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the federal judge also has a say," Guerrero said.

The three commissioners said they don't see any problem with whoever sits as CUC's management so long as they have proven credentials and are qualified for the job.

When asked for comment, Fletcher said he hasn't seen the resolution yet. But he assured that he will continue to work with the Legislature to meet the desired stability of the islands' utilities agency. He said he plans to directly work with both the House and Senate, including supplying any needed information.

The resolution was primarily authored by Rep. Frank Dela Cruz, who is vice chair of the House Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee. It was filed days after the CPUC initially agreed to CUC's proposed increase in its electric base rates, which became final Wednesday.

Based on the resolution, "Fletcher is not able to carry out the duties and responsibilities to manage the administration and operation of CUC in a satisfactory manner."

Fletcher was also criticized on other issues, including the approval of the Telesource change order contract, "unnecessary" business expenses of the agency, and unrealized renewable energy, among other issues.

Fletcher was first hired at CUC in February 2011 as deputy executive director and administrator of the water and wastewater division. He served the executive director position in an acting capacity for quite some time until his contract was not renewed by then-governor Benigno Fitial. Gov. Eloy S. Inos hired Fletcher back on his first day as governor.

Based on his résumé, Fletcher is a professional utility manager with about 30 years experience in water and wastewater operations, regulatory compliance, capital and strategic planning, and financing.

Prior to serving CUC, Fletcher worked at the Manchester Water District of Manchester in Washington; the port of Manchester; at the Clackamas River Water Authority of Clackamas in Oregon; and for the Clairmont Water District of Oregon City.

Fletcher received his bachelor's degree in Management and Communications from Concordia College in Portland, Oregon, and earned his master's degree in Business Administration from George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon.

# CPUC suspends proposed standby charge for 8 hotels

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

Citing their discomfort against acting on something that they don't have adequate information on, the three-member Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission on Wednesday suspended the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s request that a standby charge be assessed on eight of its large commercial customers.

The consensus was reached following the members' agreement that further testimonies must be filed by CUC prior to the commission's next regulatory session in two months.

"I understand why it [standby charge proposal] is there. However, the commissioners are just not comfortable in making determination [today] because every time we make decision, we want to make sure we have the right amount of information," according to CPUC chair Joseph Guerrero.

He ruled that the commission

needs to be given further testimony so the matter could be addressed at the April session.

Prior to issuing its final decision on the base rate petition Wednesday, the CPUC chair gave CUC officials an opportunity to make a "privilege comment" in an aim to air some of their concerns.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren disclosed that the suspension of the proposed standby charge would mean another month of potential revenue loss to CUC to the tune of \$180,000 per month, or \$2.2 million yearly.

He said the specific proposal has been endorsed to CPUC since July last year and was contemplated to become effective in October, the beginning of fiscal year 2014. But that didn't happen.

"So we already lost this potential revenue for five months and further delays will have significant impact on CUC operation," said Warren.

## NMC, PSS chiefs meet to deepen partnership

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart and Public School System Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan met this week in an effort to further strengthen ties between the two educational agencies.

In the presence of officials and representatives of the two institutions, Hart outlined President Barack Obama's Ratings Plan for Higher Education and the potential impact this plan will have on NMC if approved and implemented.

President Obama's plan will measure college performance through a new ratings system so students and families have the information to select schools that provide the best value. And after this ratings system is well established, Congress can tie federal student aid to college performance so that students maximize their federal aid at institutions providing the best value.

Hart also shared The College Completion Agenda State Policy Guide developed by the College Board. It was written in collaboration with the National Conference of State Legislators as a research and innovation tool. It serves as a state policy guide to help K-12 educators, higher education leaders, and legislatures. It lists 10 recommendations for all states.

"The College Completion Agenda needs to be central to what NMC focuses on. As K-12 is strongly linked to students' preparedness to enter higher education, we need to work together for joint success," Hart told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He said this will affect some stipulated order projects, equipment procurement as well as supplies.

CUC earlier disclosed that eight large commercial customers—primarily golf courses and hotels—obtain some or all of their power using their own generators. When their generators require planned maintenance or shut down unexpectedly, CUC picks up the slack. These customers do not pay for this standby service supplied by CUC.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that the total connected load of these customers is approximately 10 megawatts. In addition, four large commercial customers with a total load of 3 MW are completely off CUC's electric

grid and would not be subjected to this charge.

Under CUC's proposal, these eight customers that are getting a free generator backup service from CUC will now pay \$20 per kW a month for using CUC as backup generation for their businesses.

Based on CUC's estimate of 9,128 kW of connected load, the increase in revenue will be approximately \$183,000 per month—or \$2.2 million per year.

CUC executive director Alan Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune* that the agency will comply with the CPUC's order for more information.

On Wednesday, the commission specified the supplemental information it needs to act on the standby charge.

These include cost analysis of the proposed \$20 per kW standby charge; the revenue that would be produced by the charge; comparable charges in similar jurisdictions; the impact which the proposed charge would have on each large commercial customer; and CUC's plans and efforts to encourage large commercial customers to return to the grid.

The commission also required a cost analysis of the loss of revenue caused by the suspension of CPUC's deci-

sion on the matter.

"We accept today's ruling and we will move forward. CUC will follow the directions and decisions rendered by the commission," Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune*.

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## MINA thanks Hyatt for \$7.5K donation

Mariana Islands Nature Alliance extended yesterday its gratitude to Hyatt Regency Saipan for its \$7,500 donation to the leading conservation, nonprofit organization in the CNMI.

"We are extremely grateful that Hyatt had selected MINA to be the beneficiary of the company's 33rd anniversary dinner which was held last December. The event, which was sold out, was both elegant and entertaining," said MINA chair Frankie Eliptico in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Hyatt's 33rd anniversary party, dubbed "Heart of Gold," was

held on Dec. 2 at the Garapan hotel's SandCastle Theater.

"On behalf of the hotel, I would like to thank our 33rd anniversary guests, associates, stakeholders, and MINA for giving us this opportunity to be of great help to the beautification our islands," said Hyatt general manager Nick Nishikawa.

He said the donation is in line with the precepts of the hotel's Hyatt Thrive philosophy. "Hyatt Regency Saipan takes pride in giving back to the community."

Eliptico said the money donated will help the group sus-

tain its many environmental projects.

"MINA will be using the funds to pay for expenses related to our recycling projects, conservation initiatives, and other critical activities that advance the protection of the CNMI precious natural resources. We look forward to partnering with Hyatt throughout the year on a number of projects, including one that is being planned for sometime in April."

Hyatt's 33rd Anniversary "Heart of Gold" event was attended by more than 200 guests. (*Mark Rabago*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan Marketing Communications manager Luis Villagomez, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance board member Elle Cabrera, MINA interim executive director Elizabeth Furey, Hyatt director of Food and Beverage Tyrell Pauling, Hyatt general manager Nick K. Nishikawa, Hyatt director of Human Resources Josephine Mesta, and MINA board members Bo Palacios and Fran Castro pose during the check presentation Wednesday at the Hyatt.

## HOUSE

*From Page 1*

Because it was a legislative initiative and only 18 House members were present, it needed at least 14 votes to pass, which it did.

The four members who voted "no" were Reps. George Camacho (R-Saipan), Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan), Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan), and Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan).

Reps. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) and John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan) were absent.

The Article 11 initiative is now headed to the Senate, which may hold a session next week.

Article 11 of the NMI Constitution partly states that public lands "may not transfer a leasehold interest in public lands that exceeds 25 years including renewal rights. An extension of not more than 15 years may be given upon approval by three-fourths of the members of the Legislature."

HLI 18-5 was initially expected to pave the way for a constitutional change to allow investors—whether NMDs or non-NMDs—to lease public lands up to 99 years instead of only up to 40 years.

This is especially because some major hotels such as Hyatt Regency Saipan, Marianas Resort & Spa, and Fiesta Resort & Spa have only 10 years or less remaining on their maximum 40-year leases.

But after the speaker and other members, with the aid of their counsels, further reviewed both Articles 11 and 12 of the NMI Constitution, they concluded that more than 55-year leases to non-NMDs would violate Article 12.

This is because in Article 12's restriction to persons of Northern Marianas descent, the term "permanent and long-term interests" in real property includes "freehold interests" and "leasehold interests" of more than 55 years.

"As the counsel was explaining, for non-NMDs, it doesn't

give it to 99 years, only NMDs, because Article 12 restricts long-term interest of lands, including leases. So Article 12 prohibits non-NMDs from leasing more than [55 years]," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The speaker acknowledged that it's not easy to pass an initiative of this kind.

"It got through a very big hurdle. This house is very conservative in the past. I think this is the first time something like this has passed one house. I don't know how it's going to do in the Senate but really, all this is about is to put it forth to the voters and let them decide," he said.

If the Senate also passes HLI 18-5, HD1, the initiative will be on the ballot in November.

House members said that unless Article 12 is amended, non-NMDs would still not be able to lease public lands for more than 40 years.

A separate Senate initiative, introduced by Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), seeks to amend Article 12 to, among

other things, change the definition of NMD corporations to permit minority interests by non-NMDs.

But the Senate has yet to tackle Manglona's initiative.

While the maximum lease term for public lands is 40 years, the maximum lease term is longer for private lands—55 years.

Proponents of the Article 11 initiative said hotel investors are holding off investing more money in renovating or upgrading their hotels because they are not sure if their leases would be renewed.

Ogumoro, during debate on the initiative, said she wants to make sure "that our public lands remain in the hands of people of Northern Marianas descent."

"My question is, 'what is wrong with the present system?' [Are] businesses telling us that they are not making any money with the present system? Elaborate. I am for extending [leases] just as long as the lands continue to be in the hands of people of Northern Marianas descent," she said.

is much less than the \$60,000 previously reported by the credit union.

"They only have \$60,000 but their members' refund is about \$350,000," Taimanao added.

Senators took turns offering recommendations how to help the credit union members and the credit union itself.

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) brought up the idea of privatizing the credit union.

"But it has to be done through a request for proposal so that we could get the best offer, the best plan," he said, adding that while the credit union has only \$28,000 in its account, it has some \$2 million in unpaid obligations including some \$1.5 million to the Retirement Fund and some \$350,000 owed members.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), for his part, said since the credit union still has over \$20,000 left in its account, it should just merge with other departments or agencies such as Finance. He said the credit union only has one employee anyway.

"What about the uncollected loans from those now off island? I think the government should not keep the credit union stay alive."

Taimanao said the credit union only has \$28,000 remaining in its account. She said this

their rebate or refund to offset what they owe. I asked the assistant attorney general, Ms. Patel, if they could review that and see whether it can be done," Cruz said.

Manglona also asked whether the Office of the Attorney General can review the list of credit union's past officers and check whether their immediate relatives were able to obtain loans and whether they have been paying their loans.

Taimanao said there are also recommendations to revamp the credit union.

"And it appears there's only five individuals paying," she added.

A Senate resolution asks for the refunds of credit union members' money.

The credit union earlier mulled seeking relief from the Legislature so it could fulfill its unpaid obligation to members.

Refunds of the members' contributions were suspended after the administration decided to do an audit to determine the financial status of the organization.

The credit union has delinquent loans totaling about \$575,000, it said earlier.

Rep. Roman Benavente, who also voted "no" to the initiative, said constitutional provisions on land are "sacred" and that members should first see studies or proper account-

ing that the Department of Public Lands, the government, or the investors leasing have in fact been financially hurting because of the current 40-year maximum lease.

constitutional convention or popular initiative.

The Office of Attorney General had warned Flores in 2013 that if he continues violating SLL 17-08, he would face as much as a year in prison and fined \$1,000. After that warning, Flores hasn't left the island since and his trip this week is his first in awhile.

Flores stated in his memo appointing Camacho that its purpose is to define the limits of Camacho's appointment. He also wants to be clear that the appointment is limited, in addition to those limitations set out in SLL 17-08.

He told Camacho that he has assigned various projects for his staff to work on in his absence and that Camacho should not interfere with the performance of those projects.

"You may not assign additional projects during the period my staff are performing the projects I have assigned them," he said in the memo.

Camacho is also barred from making any commitments or obligating the mayor's office to perform "any promises you make."

Camacho has expressed an intention to run for mayor of Saipan in the upcoming November elections.

the suspects after receiving a tip.

Two hours after the armed robbery, bank customers continued to pull in, apparently unaware that a robbery had just occurred.

At the time of the robbery, it appeared as though there weren't any nearby establishments that were open. The bank employees were also ordered to stay inside the building. None of them would speak to the media.

Meanwhile, Balajadia says GPD does not anticipate releasing any surveillance footage of the suspects at this time. The manhunt will continue until these suspects are caught.

As of news time Guam police have not arrested any suspects. The suspects are considered armed and dangerous.

## BUDGET

*From Page 1*

ing to be enough to take care of [everything] but it's going to be more than half of that [needed]. It's probably more like \$8 million or \$9 million," the governor told *Saipan Tribune*.

The preliminary figures do not include those collected during the implementation of the latest tax amnesty program under Public Law 18-29, he said.

Inos said the supplemental budget comes from additional revenues generated mostly from business gross receipt taxes, now that tourism numbers have improved.

Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, separately said the government expects to collect up to \$2.6 million from the latest tax amnesty program, inclusive of at least \$446,572.81 that's actually collected.

Sablan said the rest is expected to be collected on an installment basis.

For the credit union funding, the governor said, "It depends on the numbers worked out."

"But our intention is to allow for a small amount to take care of that," he said.

When asked about the range, he said, "Probably \$200,000 to \$300,000."

The governor said the supplemental budget he's preparing covers a portion of the health and life insurance premiums.

"The premiums are paid on a biweekly basis. It's kind of pay as you go. It would be nice to secure the funds but if we don't have the funds, we want to make sure we have so much to pay when payment becomes due..." he added.

### Senate on credit union

The Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee met yesterday with credit union chair Angel Demapan, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, and other officials for an update on the state of the union.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), chair of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, said the Senate would like to help credit union members refund their money while at the same time keeping the credit union stay alive.

Taimanao said the credit union only has \$28,000 remaining in its account. She said this

is much less than the \$60,000 previously reported by the credit union.

"They only have \$60,000 but their members' refund is about \$350,000," Taimanao added.

Senators took turns offering recommendations how to help the credit union members and the credit union itself.

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"But it has to be done through a request for proposal so that we could get the best offer, the best plan," he said, adding that while the credit union has only \$28,000 in its account, it has some \$2 million in unpaid obligations including some \$1.5 million to the Retirement Fund and some \$350,000 owed members.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), for his part, said since the credit union still has over \$20,000 left in its account, it should just merge with other departments or agencies such as Finance. He said the credit union only has one employee anyway.

"What about the uncollected loans from those now off island? I think the government should not keep the credit union stay alive."

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## BANK

*From Page 1*

mask, escaped on foot into the jungle area behind the bank toward Perez Acres.

The man with the black mask stood about 5'10" to 6 feet tall and was wearing a green shirt and black pants. The suspect in the red ski mask was about 5'6" to 5'8" tall and was wearing a black long-sleeved shirt.

Police still don't know how much cash the men got away with. No injuries were reported.

As PNC arrived at the scene, detectives and police officers began jumping into their marked and unmarked vehicles and dispersed into different directions, evidently searching for

# Judge denies motion to suppress Crisostomo's footprints evidence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has denied murder suspect Joseph A. Crisostomo's motion to suppress the

## Probable cause is found to charge Hocog's ex-cop son

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman found probable cause yesterday to warrant the filing of charges against former police officer Victor Val B. Hocog, who was arrested last week for alleged trafficking methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

Hocog is facing two counts of trafficking of controlled substance, and two counts of illegal possession of controlled substance.

The 39-year-old Hocog will be arraigned on Feb. 10.

At the preliminary hearing yes-

footprints evidence the CNMI government seized from him at the Department of Corrections.

In an order on Wednesday, Camacho ruled that Crisostomo's Sixth Amendment rights were not violated when the

yesterday, police detective Jeffrey I. Norita narrated to the court how they busted Hocog on Jan. 25 and 26 in a sting operation.

Assistant attorney general James McAllister is prosecuting the case. Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer is counsel for the defendant.

Police arrested Hocog on Jan. 27. At the time, he was a police officer 1 assigned to the Patrol Section. He is being kept on a \$10,000 cash bail.

He is son of Sen. Victor Hocog (R-Rota). (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Commonwealth took his bare footprints without the presence of his lawyer, Janet H. King.

"The court finds that taking footprints is akin to taking fingerprints, blood samples, or hair samples and, as such, is not a critical stage of the criminal proceedings at which the presence of counsel is constitutionally guaranteed," the judge said.

Just as with a fingerprint or handwriting sample, Camacho said that Crisostomo will have the opportunity at trial to challenge the evidence gathered during the footprint-taking proceeding, by way of cross-examination or the introduction of contradictory evidence.

Camacho also ruled that assistant attorney general Brian Flaherty, who participated in the footprint collection process,

may continue to represent the Commonwealth in this case.

The judge said he reviewed the video recording of the footprint collection process and that he is satisfied that Flaherty's involvement does not make him a necessary witness at trial.

Crisostomo is facing charges in the kidnapping and murder of bartender Emerita Romero in February 2012.

According to court records, the Commonwealth obtained a search warrant on Dec. 23, 2013, for a set of weight bearing footprints to be collected from Crisostomo.

The following day, police detective Simon Manacop served the warrant on Crisostomo at DOC. He stated that the footprints collected would be compared with barefoot

print evidence found within the La Fiesta crime scene, where Romero's body was found on Feb. 7, 2012.

King was unable to attend the footprinting procedure. However, after speaking with King on the phone, Crisostomo agreed to have his footprint taken.

Aside from Manacop and Flaherty, present at the time were three detectives and two investigators from the Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Division.

King objected to the process. Asserting it was a violation of her client's Sixth Amendment rights, King asked the court to suppress the footprint evidence.

The OAG argued that the defendant's Sixth Amendment rights were not violated because the collection of footprints is not

a critical stage of the criminal proceeding, and thus the footprint evidence should not be suppressed.

The Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees criminal defendants the right to the assistance of counsel and applies in the CNMI.

In denying Crisostomo's motion to suppress, Camacho said he heard ample testimony concerning the procedure used to obtain the suspect's bare footprints and reviewed the video recording taken during the process.

Camacho said the procedure used to take Crisostomo's footprints did not include any kind of interrogation, nor did it contain any elements of unfair suggestibility.

The jury trial of Crisostomo will start on April 7, 2014.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### MHS notice to parents

To all the Mighty Dolphin parents and legal guardians of Marianas High School: Marianas High School will be distributing the 2nd Quarter Report Card to the students today, Feb. 7, 2014. We will have our regular class schedule, which means students will be released at 3pm. Ask your child for his/her report card and give us a call if you have any questions or concerns: MHS Main Office at 237-3206/5; MHS counselors: 237-3213/3207/3396; MHS registrar: 237-3205. (*PR*)

### Community meeting at Carolinian Utt

May is National Foster Care Month. In line with this, the Division of Youth Services will be hosting a community meeting for the public on Feb. 11, at the Carolinian Utt, starting at 5:30pm. Calling everyone to come and attend this meeting. Bring your concerns and family matters. (*PR*)

### MIFICPA sets annual tax seminar

The Marianas Institute of Filipino CPAs and Accountants, or MIFICPA, invites the public to this year's tax seminar on Feb. 15, 2014, Saturday, from 8am to 12pm at the Seaside Hall, Kanoa Resort. This year's tax seminar will focus on tax updates for 2014, changes in tax laws, tax filing requirements. David J. Burger, director for Burger & Comer, PC Certified Public Accountants, will be the guest speaker. Registration starts at 7:30am.

Registration fee for members is \$20 (includes \$5 membership renewal). Non-members and non-accountants are also welcome for the same fee, which includes refreshments and a certificate of attendance.

For reservation and more details, call or email Olive Anion at 287-6587 (olive.mificpa@pacificsbdc.com). (*PR*)

gmail.com); Noli Santos at 285-6810 (nolsantos@yahoo.com); Irene Santiago at 286-1106 (irene\_saipan@yahoo.com); Eloisa Agustin at 287-9367 (elois18@yahoo.com); or Anabelle Lubi (anabelle.ramos@yahoo.com). (*MIFICPA*)

### Calling all 1964 high school graduates

An All Island 50th High School Reunion Banquet is scheduled for Friday, July 18, 2014, at the Hilton Resort and Spa. For information and banquet tickets, contact Nick Francisco at 734-0056 or Connie Reyes at 727-0022. The Next planning committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014 at 6:30pm at Nick Francisco's residence. (*PR*)

### MINA to hold special general membership meeting

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance will hold a special general membership meeting on Feb. 13, 2014, at 5:30pm at the MINA conference room, Gualo Rai Center, Suite 103. The purpose for the meeting is to discuss and vote on the recommended merger between the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance and Pacific Marine Resource Institute. Projected meeting time is 30 minutes. (*MINA*)

### Free business training seminar

The CNMI Small Business Development Center will hold a free business training seminar on Saipan called "How to start a business in 2014." The workshop will be held on Feb. 7, 2014, from 10am to 12pm, at the second floor of the Family Building in Garapan. Online registration: PISBCDN.ECENTERDIRECT.COM or call for pre-registration at (670) 664-3018 or www.pacificsbdc.com. (*PR*)

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## CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH GES students taught how to care for their teeth

As part of its celebration of Children's Dental Health Month this February, the Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic held its first oral health presentation yesterday at Garapan Elementary School for about 120 second grade students.

Lori I. Serna, a registered dental hygienist at the SDA Dental Clinic, gave the children hands-on presentations such as story-telling to share information about teeth and why they should take care of their teeth. Serna also talked about nutrition and why they should stay away from sugar and limit it to meal times.

The students were also given free stickers, worksheets, and toothbrushes as well as a chance for free dental exams at the SDA Dental Clinic this



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
SDA Dental Clinic dental hygienist Lori I. Serna, standing left, poses with Garapan Elementary School students after a presentation on oral health care.

## 26 sign up for ukulele lessons

to 4:30 pm, while intermediate and advanced classes are every Thursday from 4:45pm to 5:45pm.

Slots still remain for the second week of classes. The ukulele classes at JKPL are open to children 8 years or older and adults and costs \$50 for the lessons' eight-hour entirety.

A minimum of 15 students and a maximum of 40 students are needed for the classes to start. Registration is on first-come, first-paid basis.

Students should provide their own ukuleles and a folder to

hold music sheets. JKPL recommends plastic sheet protectors and a three-ring binder for this purpose.

Parents or guardians should also sign a liability waiver form on behalf of their participating children and must adhere to public library policies and procedures.

For more information, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, fax 235-7550. (**Mark Rabago**)



whole month of February.

Serna told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that it's hard for children to do well in school without proper dental care. "The earlier they start the better," she said.

Serna pointed out that 40 to 60 percent of school age children in the U.S. mainland usually have cavities.

"We can stop that and decrease that number by increasing the awareness of both children and adults on how to take care of their teeth," Serna said.

This is why they focus on second and third grade stu-

dents as a whole because it's at an age where they're still eager to learn and don't have bad habits, Serna added.

SDA will continue its presentations next week at Koblerville Elementary School. The week after that will be at Tanapag Elementary School and then back to GES for 3rd grade students.

For more information and appointments, call the SDA Dental Clinic at 234-6323. Its office hours are from Monday through Thursday, from 7am to 6pm, and on Friday, from 7am to 1pm. (**Jayson Camacho**)

## Performers galore in Chinese New Year party

Lunar New Year festivities continue this Saturday, Feb. 8, when the Chinese Association of Saipan hosts a party to welcome the Year of the Wooden Horse at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Chinese association director Rose Chan said the New Year party will be held at the Garapan landmark's Hibiscus Hall and doors open at 6pm.

A bevy of guest performers have been tapped for the evening, according to Chan, namely professional violin player Melody Li, acclaimed singer Liu Yang, and students of the Chinese Education Center who will be performing various traditional Chinese dances.

Chan said that Li is a very accomplished violinist from mainland China and honed her skills in Europe, while Yang is expected to sing *Heart of China*.

A traditional lion dance, a tai chi exhibition, a zumba and samba demonstration by Rose Dance School, and more Chinese cultural dances are also in store for guests of tomorrow night's event.

"I'm really looking forward to an amazing and exciting Chinese New Year Party this

Saturday at Fiesta. We will have a lot of very good performers and everyone will also enjoy our feast, which includes roast pig," said Chan.

Among the 300 guests for tomorrow night's Lunar New Year party are Chinese Association of Saipan vice presidents Johnny Fong and Anna Chan. The organization has been staging Chinese New Year parties since its inception in 1987.

Last Jan. 31, the association ushered in the Year of the Wooden Horse with the performance of traditional lion dance in close to 30 business establishments and private residences on Saipan. On the eve of the Lunar New Year, over 300 Chinese tourists attended a countdown party at Fiesta Resort, which came complete with a sumptuous barbecue party and over 10-minute fireworks display.

Also known as the Spring Festival, Chinese New Year celebrations traditionally run from Chinese New Year's Eve, the last day of the last month of the Chinese calendar, to the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of the first month, making the festival the longest in the Chinese calendar. (**Mark Rabago**)



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# Alleged HK fugitive Zeng is indicted in federal court

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A federal grand jury indicted yesterday alleged Hong Kong fugitive and property mogul Wei Zeng in connection with his arrest at the Saipan International Airport on Jan. 16.



Zeng

The indictment charged Zeng with the use of a false document and misuse of a passport.

According to the indictment, Zeng used false, fictitious, and fraudulent statements and entries in the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Form I-736 on Jan. 16.

In the Form I-736, Zeng stated that his family name was Liu; that he did not use other names; that his date of birth was Feb. 5, 1963; that he had never applied for an immigrant or nonimmigrant U.S. visa; and that he had never been arrested for any offense or crime.

MOU underway for designation of authorized port operator on Tinian

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority may soon ink an agreement with a company that would be in charge of running the Tinian port following disclosure that a memorandum of agreement between parties is now being readied.

Tinian Marine Stevedore Inc. officials had approached the CPA board, seeking a formal designation as the authorized Tinian ports operator, a document that would certify their legitimate business on island.

According to Norman Tenorio, the company's board member, they need the MOU to signify that they are authorized and have legitimate business at the port of Tinian.

Tenorio's personal appearance at a CPA board meeting last week, along with company executives Mike Tenorio and Mike Demapan, was also intended to clarify an earlier "misconception" about their request.

It was earlier reported to the board that Tinian Marine Stevedore Inc. is requesting exclusive stevedoring rights on Tinian, an idea that was initially opposed by the Tinian delegation.

"We're not asking exclusivity. What we want is to be designated as the authorized operator for the port of Tinian because right now, what we only have with CPA is a lease [agreement] but we don't have designation," clarified Mike Tenorio.

According to CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama, there were two stevedoring companies on Tinian at one point: Tinian Stevedore and Tinian Marine Stevedore Inc. Due to the slowdown in activities at

The indictment states that Zeng used a Chinese passport designed for a person with the family name of Liu and a date of birth of Feb. 5, 1963—when he presented this passport to an agent of USCBP, in order to be paroled into the United States.

Zeng arrived on Saipan from Shanghai, China.

According to the U.S. government, the Hong Kong District Court issued a warrant for Zeng's arrest on July 4, 2011, on the basis of charges that he bribed a bank official in Hong Kong with a bag filled with HK \$2.3 million, the equivalent of \$300,000 in October 2010.

The cash was allegedly a reward for the bank official's help in a multi-million Hong Kong dollar loan extension application and for giving favorable credit information relating to Zeng's two companies.

The U.S. government has

also filed a separate complaint for provisional arrest with a view toward extraditing Zeng.

This will be the first high-profile extradition between the U.S. and Hong Kong governments since Washington's failed bid to secure the return of former National Security Agency contractor and whistleblower Edward Snowden in June 2013.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jessica F. Cruz stated that releasing Zeng on bail would have negative implications for U.S. foreign policy in cases where the U.S. seeks extradition of fugitives from Hong Kong.

Cruz has asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI that Zeng's request for bail be denied. The defendant remains in the U.S. Marshal's custody.

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## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

*This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.*

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate **\$2,466,520.00** in LIHTCs for the 2014 program year.

### Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or through our website at [www.nmhc.gov.mp](http://www.nmhc.gov.mp).

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **\$1,000.00 Application Fee** in NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, June 30, 2014**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **July 15, 2014**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **July 29, 2014**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **August 2014** Board Meeting.

### Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs thirty (30) days following the August 2014 Board of Directors meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

## PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP14-DOC-051

#### "Development of the CNMI Consumer Assistance Program's Web Site and Consumer Web-based Database Application"

The CNMI Department of Commerce, Consumer Assistance Program (CAP), is seeking qualified proposals to develop and implement a web site and consumer web-based database application specific to the CNMI for the "Development of the CNMI Consumer Assistance Program's Web Site and Consumer Web-based Database Application".

The complete RFP packet will be available on or after **January 24, 2014** and may be picked up at the CNMI Procurement and Supply Office located in Lower Base Drive, Saipan.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with Title 70 of the NMIAC CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Kaitlyn Neises-Mocanu Consumer Assistance Program Advocacy Officer/Project Manager via email to Kaitlyn Mocanu [advocacyoffice@commerce.gov.mp](mailto:advocacyoffice@commerce.gov.mp) or via fax to: (670) 664-3067 no later than **4:30 p.m. local time, February 20, 2014**.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored bases on the following criteria:

- Qualifications and Experiences: 30%
- Technical Merit/Response to RFP: 30%
- On-Site Availability/Commitment to Resources: 25%
- Cost: 15%

Award of the contract shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be most advantageous to the government taking into consideration price and the evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposal. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation.

Performance time for completion of the Development of the CNMI Consumer Assistance Program's Web Site and Consumer Web-based Database Application is for the **90 days** upon issuance of a Notice to Proceed. Proposal shall be valid for **60 days** after closure of RFP.

All proposals must be sealed and marked **RFP14-DOC-051** and in compliance with the Request for Proposal structure and include an original and five (5) hard copies and two (2) electronic copies and submitted no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, March 06, 2014** to:

Herman S. Sablan  
Director, Procurement and Supply  
Lower Base Drive  
P.O. Box 510008 C.K.  
Saipan, MP 96950

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become property of the Government.

/S/ **SIXTO K. IGISOMAR**  
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/S/ **KAITLYN NEISES-MOCANU**  
CONSUMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
ADVOCACY OFFICER/PROJECT MANAGER

**Flashback**  
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

**February 7, 2006**

### Stricter regs sought for sponsorships, IR permits

Acting Attorney General Matthew Gregory yesterday announced that a public hearing on the proposed regulations governing sponsorships and Immediate Relative permits will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Feb. 22 at 6pm. "Most would agree [that] sham marriages are a significant and longstanding problem in the Commonwealth. As our law now stands, a foreign national may enter the islands, marry any U.S. or former Trust Territory citizen (even those with no connection to the Commonwealth), and use them as a sponsor to obtain an IR permit," said Gregory in a statement. This permit, Gregory said, then allows the foreign national to stay in the Commonwealth and to work without restrictions.

### Tight belt gets tighter still

The administration implemented more cost-cutting measures yesterday, stopping all government paid cellular phones and controlling government purchases, vehicle and office space leases, and travel. Acting Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez issued Directive 248, a supplement to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's Jan. 16 directive, which prohibited all government agencies from entering into contracts and traveling using public funds. Directive 248 applies to the entire Executive Branch. Other branches of government are also encouraged to implement similar austerity measures.

**February 7, 2007**

### \$2.4M in class suit money unclaimed

Of the \$5.7 million in checks sent to 29,771 workers in connection with the settlement in the class action against the CNMI garment industry and some retailers, only \$3 million were received and cashed by the workers. According to plaintiffs' counsel's report provided to the Garment Oversight Board on Friday, of the \$5,706,719.35 issued to 29,771 workers, only 13,052 checks or \$3,046,110.32 were cashed. As a result, there are 16,719 outstanding checks left, in the amount of \$2,660,609.03. Other outstanding checks, however, were reissued. This brought to 15,891 the number of checks (amounting to \$2,397,262.67) that are not accounted for or cashed.

### Tinian govt workers to get retro pay

Nearly 200 government employees on Tinian are expected to receive their much-awaited retroactive salary before this week ends. Sen. Henry San Nicolas, chairman of the Tinian Legislative Delegation, said the Office of Personnel Management had identified 182 past and present municipal employees who are entitled to retroactive pay under the 1991 government salary adjustment law. Some \$400,000 of the tax and fee arrears paid by the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino has been appropriated for the payment of the retroactive salary increases mandated by Public 7-31.

**February 7, 2008**

### Immunization Clinic relocates to the former Children's Clinic

The Department of Public Health's Immunization Clinic is set to open its doors at its new location at the Commonwealth Health Center next week, Monday. The immunization clinic will now be administering their shots at the former CHC Children's Clinic. The clinic, once located in San Antonio, will house four administrative staff and two nurses. "The immunization clinic has been around for many, many years until it was decided to be moved," Immunization program manager Mariana Santos said.

### Juvenile detainees undergoing evaluation

Some of the troubled youth at the Kagman Juvenile Detention & Correction Facility have been referred to the Public School System Special Education Program for evaluation. According to Department of Community & Cultural Affairs acting secretary Melvin L.O. Faisao, some of these juveniles were evaluated by PSS psychologist Marie McGee and found eligible through their Individual Education Plan. The juvenile referrals have been ongoing since 2006 up to the present. Faisao noted that more juveniles who come into the justice system may be eligible for the program, but were not detained long enough to go through the testing with the PSS psychologist. Faisao said the numbers of clients going through the evaluation, their names, and other related information cannot be released for confidentiality issues and that "it will contradict the statute on minors."



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# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIV, Issue No. 27

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### How safe is your credit card, and how safe should be it?

The blockbuster theft of credit card data from Target during the holiday shopping rush was just one example of the way outdated cards are leaving Americans more vulnerable to fraud and identity theft than shoppers are in other developed countries. The good news is that the credit card industry is in the process of fixing part of the problem. The bad news is that squabbling among retailers, banks and payment processors is getting in the way of a more complete solution.

The United States is one of the few remaining places where credit and debit cards rely on a magnetic stripe, rather than a microchip, to store and transmit account information. Magnetic stripes are easy to steal information from and to counterfeit, but that's next to impossible with chips. That's why, as other countries switched to chip-based "smart cards," hackers shifted their attention to U.S. targets.

Belatedly, the companies that process credit card transactions (such as Visa and MasterCard) have given banks and retailers until October 2015 to adopt smart cards. If a bank issues the new cards but a retailer doesn't equip itself to read them, liability for any losses caused by fraud will shift from the bank to the retailer. That's as far as banks and credit card companies want to go; thus far they're refusing to require consumers to use personal identification numbers with smart cards, arguing that many retailers don't have the necessary PIN pads. But requiring PIN use would help combat the unauthorized use of legitimate cards, which seems worth the cost that the added equipment would impose on some retailers.

Unfortunately, even more sophisticated cards can't stop fraud in online shopping, where there are no smart-card readers or PIN pads. The key there is to prevent hackers from stealing account information in the first place, which means that any company storing such data must keep it encrypted.

Several Senate Democrats have called for federal regulators to set minimum standards for protecting stored data. As tempting as this may be, however, the federal government should not be telling companies which technologies to use. Such mandates can't possibly keep pace with the techniques being developed by hackers and the security companies trying to stop them. Instead, lawmakers should make it more expensive for companies that lose credit card data by requiring them to do more to protect customers in the event of a breach. For starters, companies could be required to cover the cost of issuing new cards and, in the case of stolen debit card data, new checks. Today, too many retailers behave as if it's costlier to protect credit card numbers than to lose them. It's time to flip that equation around.

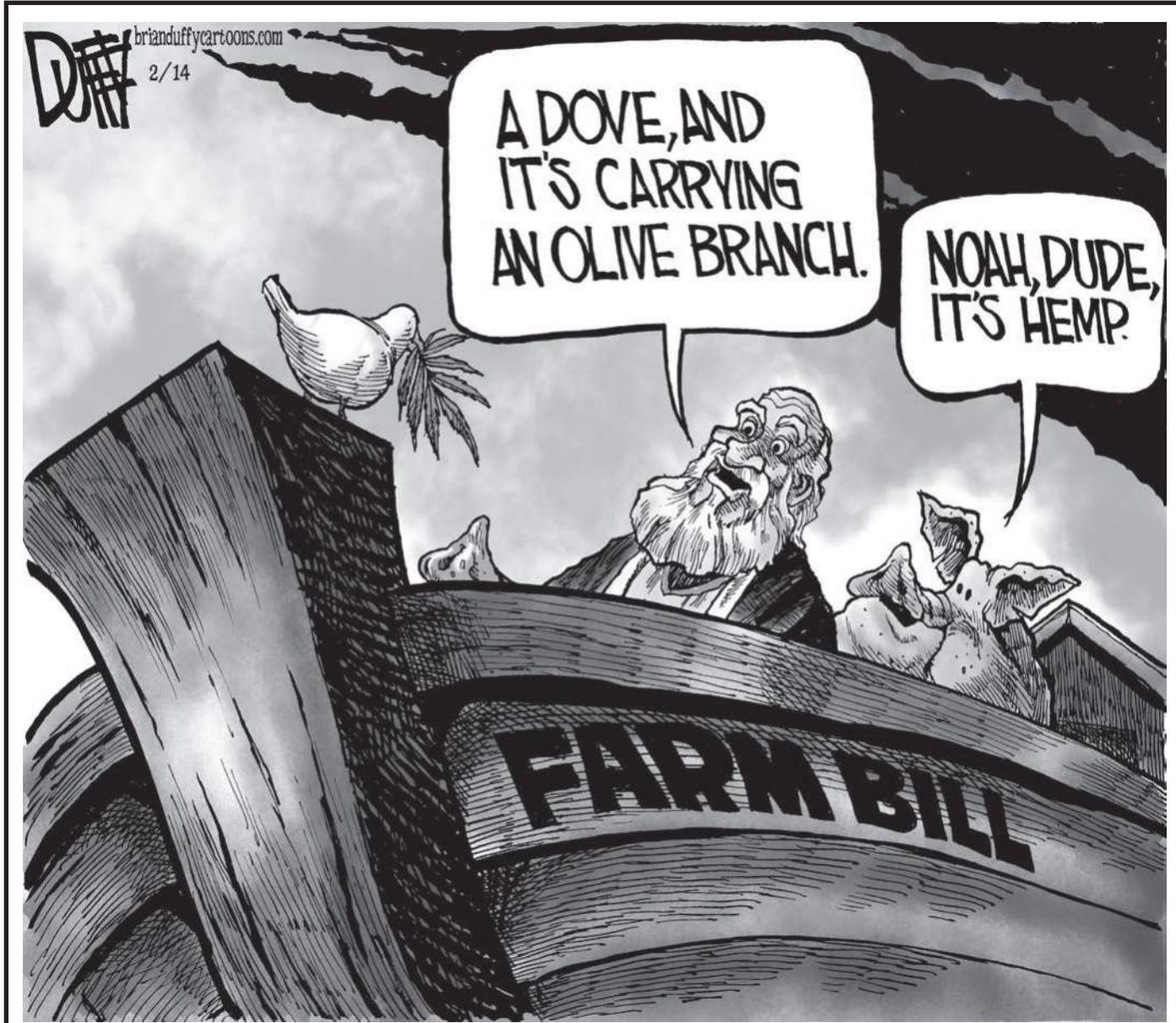
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### Philip Seymour Hoffman, another heroin victim

The thief has struck again, taking from the world a talented actor and treasured father. Another victim of addiction has been stolen from us, and it is not, this time, because there aren't enough rehab beds, outpatient programs or awareness programs, or enough cops to put criminals behind bars.

It's just because that's what addiction often does.

See PHILIP on Next Page



### TSA's shortcomings exposed

By MARTIN SCHRAM  
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

This was the week when America's airline passengers got our sweet revenge. It happened right before our eyes.

We saw a federal bureaucratic body known as the Transportation Security Administration get summarily shoved through a high-tech machine (in this case, just a word processing computer). Then one of its own former body image screeners did to his ex-bosses what he and his colleagues had done to us for several years:

He stripped that bureaucratic body starker! Suddenly, its bare-naked "T-S-A" was just dangling out there, no longer covered up by years of phony promises and flawed practices. This past week, the TSA's inadequacy was exposed for all the world to see.

It was not a pretty sight, and certainly not a comforting one.

On Jan. 31, former TSA security screener Jason Edward Harrington wrote a magazine article for Washington's agenda-setting online news organization Politico.com that exposed as blithering failures—and privacy invaders—those original TSA full-body scanning machines. And a number of the TSA folks who ran those machines that, since 2007, had been stripping airline passengers down to their anatomically accurate nude, X-ray-like images. Harrington, who worked at Chicago's O'Hare Airport from 2007 until last year, unsuitably titled his Politico.com article:

"Dear America, I Saw You Naked—And yes, we were laughing. Confessions of an ex-TSA agent."

But the article's most damning revelation was not the bare-naked titillation that filled most of our old media's coverage of Harrington's confessions. Nor the TSA gang's frat house shenanigans, as they'd gather in the Image Operator's Room to gawk and crudely joke about our images on the screens. "Piercings of every kind were visible," he wrote.

No, the article's most unforgivable revelation was that the TSA put us through all of that even though it knew its Advanced Imaging Technology machines could reveal everything about a person's body—except, maybe, his or her concealed weapon.

"We knew the full-body scanners didn't work before they were even installed," Harrington wrote. Indeed, when his training class instructor was asked for his off-the-record opinion of the machines, the trainer said: "They're (naughty word deleted)." Harrington wrote: "He said we wouldn't be able to distinguish plastic explosives from body fat and that guns were practically invisible if they

were turned sideways in a pocket."

Actually, the TSA knew a lot more. In 2010, I wrote two columns about an alternative technology that would invade no one's privacy—except maybe the privacy of someone sneaking a weapon through security. It is called Automatic Target Recognition (ATR), software for detecting contraband items on a person. And it wasn't just theoretical—it was being used every day in Amsterdam's Schiphol International Airport.

It was much like the TSA's machines—with one crucial difference: Instead of producing an anatomically accurate X-ray image of a passenger, the ATR only shows a chalk-like outline of a generic human body (like the ones cops draw on sidewalks at crime scenes). If the machine detected a concealed weapon or suspicious item, a yellow box appeared over that spot on the white-outlined body. Then the passenger was escorted to a non-public pat-down.

But in 2010, the TSA was dismissive of this technology solution to the privacy invasion. Even when several U.S. senators urged it after seeing it operate in Amsterdam. Finally, they enacted a law requiring all imaging be done by the ATR chalk-outline software. After spending more than \$80 million, TSA installed new machines with ATR software at all airports.

Today, the TSA's machines show the chalk-like generic body—instead of your real one. And yes, the imaging features the telltale yellow box alert.

Now we get it. When those government officials kept promising you "transparency," they were only talking about your clothing. Not their promises and practices.

After Harrington's article had stripped the TSA bare—revealed it to be just another example of wasteful spending and disregard to the rights of ordinary citizens—the TSA's Dickensian named administrator, John Pistole, went on NBC's "Nightly News."

But he didn't deny the article's disclosures. His message was that his TSA's past is no longer a fitting prologue. Grown-up kids who once played cops and robbers may remember how, after they were "shot" dead, they would simply jump up and say "I'm a new man!" and continue playing the game. So too with this game.

"There is a new TSA in town doing things 180 degrees differently than what he alleges was done," Pistole said. He added: "TSA will not tolerate the unprofessional conduct of officers, if proven."

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

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## Supernovae and cheeseburgers

**T**oday we veer 10 time zones west of Saipan. A science story came out of London on Jan. 21, when some astronomy students and their mentor discovered, quite by chance, a supernova within a galaxy called M82. The University College London students, Ben Cooke, Tom Wright, Matthew Wilde and Guy Pollack, assisted by Dr. Steve Fossey, were observing M82. It appeared to have a little something extra in it. And, in fact, it did have a little something extra in it. They leapt into action, and the astronomy world hasn't slept since.

The supernova is an exploding star. It's freaky physics, a giant cosmic nuclear blast.

Most folks will go their entire lives without seeing a supernova. They only occur a few times over a human lifespan in a galaxy the size of ours, and ours is pretty big.

They also occur, of course, in other galaxies, as in this case. But intergalactic distances are vast, so it's rare for a supernova to occur close enough to Earth for normal guys like me to clearly see with our humble equipment, which is one reason this is such a big story.

Before we continue, though, we have to note a quirk of English grammar. I'll mention that the plural of supernova is "supernovae." I wish we could just say "supernovas." That seems more sensible to me, but grammar ain't my strong suit.

Anyway, scientists are interested in supernovae for various technical reasons, but the rest of us can simply enjoy the "gee whiz" factor of these giant explosions.

The supernova at issue right now, dubbed SN 2014J, was so bright that it was clearly visible even in small telescopes over the 11.5 million light-year distance its light traveled to reach Earth.

In other words, to appreciate the size of this monster explosion, we have to appreciate the distance to it. After all, if you could see a bonfire at the opposite side of the Pacific Ocean, you would conclude that it was a mighty powerful bonfire.

Someone asked if the distance to M82 has been measured by radar. It's a good question.

The answer is that if we could bounce a radar signal off of M82, it's so far away that we would have to wait over 23 million years for the signal to travel out and back. I was sort of hoping to be retired by then.

However, if I don't hit the lotto soon I'll have to re-cast my retirement plans. Maybe I'll volunteer for radar duty, since it looks juicy for racking up a lot of overtime, and after a few million years I'm bound to get some solid seniority and hopefully a halfway decent dental plan.

So despite M82's status as a "nearby" galaxy, that "nearby" is a

## PHILIP

From Page 10

Philip Seymour Hoffman died Sunday in a Manhattan apartment, found with a needle sticking out of his arm and empty and full packets of heroin by his side, according to police sources. Sober for 23 years, Hoffman had relapsed on pain pills, then heroin last year, and spent 10 days in rehab.

More people are using heroin, both on Long Island, where arrests and overdoses are way up, and across the country: A 2012 survey conducted by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration found that from 2007 to 2012, the number of heroin users nationally increased almost 80 percent. And law enforcement and addiction experts say overdoses are up because heroin cut with the hyper-powerful opiate fentanyl pushes users' bodies beyond what they can handle.

Hoffman joins a long line of beloved artists killed by drugs: He also joins a far longer line of equally beloved but anonymous children and parents and siblings and friends whose lives were cut short. Practically nobody these days lives a life untouched by addiction.

Hoffman was a marvelously talented actor who moved audiences onstage in *Death of a Salesman* as easily as he did on film in starring roles like Truman Capote, for which he earned an Academy Award. He may, though, be best remembered for his superb character acting in supporting roles that added so much to films like *Magnolia*, *The Big Lebowski*, and *Boogie Nights*.

In the wake of Hoffman's death, we'll hear a lot about what needs to be done to fight the scourge of addiction, and that deserves attention and action. But it's also wise to come to terms with just how powerful addiction is: Hoffman, beloved and rich, had access to every rehab program, treatment and service known to man. He lies dead, anyway, at the age of 46.

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comparative term on the cosmic scale. On any humanly conceivable scale, M82 is not nearby at all, and any single point of light that can be seen over this distance is a mighty powerful bonfire.

It's better to be lucky than good, and when news of SN 2014J hit the world, I had already planned to attend an astronomy get-together.

At the get-together dozens of amateur astronomers, gear in tow, gathered in a dark stretch of remote desert; basically a camping trip for space cadets. We didn't even wait for the moon to set before we trained our scopes on M82, whereupon SN 2014J became immediately visible.

It looked like a normal star, just a point of light, but was identifiable by reference to annotated photos (as in: "Dude, this arrow points to the supernova.")

Photos of astronomical bodies are far more dazzling than what an eyeball sees in a telescope. Cameras, unlike eyeballs, can accumulate light, and can therefore build up a lot of detail. Many astronomical photos have exposure times measured in hours.

I've been told that SN 2014J has passed its peak brightness, so maybe the story is winding down now. The scientists will pore over the data they hoarded, and I'll resume my usual focus on eating

## Laboratory of economic freedom

**T**he CNMI is a sleepy laboratory of economic freedom. It could easily lift itself out of the deepening economic mess if and, only if, it works up the resolve to do something to begin a new path to growth. The sail is already flapping in the wind. Our canoe is sail-ready. It only needs a confident navigator to steer it into the safe port of economic freedom.

Who among 31 elected elite is ready to navigate our sinking canoe out of the harbor of bankruptcy? Is there anyone among you who's willing to brave the task of helping the crew sail into some safe harbor somewhere? Or is the task difficult to undertake and fulfill? What aspect of the trip do you find hard? Is it your navigational skills in the use of the swells, stars, wind and current in the open waters? Isn't the canoe navigation-ready?

Difficult the first leg of the journey may be, I remain optimistic we could join the captain sail our canoe to the open waters of economic opportunity. It may be a rough trip but a trip worth taking and risking to ensure greater opportunities ahead for the folks we left along the shore waving, with a sense of hope that our journey would be one of great success. We can do it and guide our canoe into the harbor or laboratory of economic freedom we so rightly deserve. Shall we sail, today?

### The CUC debacle

CUC isn't equipped with the political wherewithal to make decisions on the privatization of the agency. It does a good job with maintenance of the old system. Its decision to institute efficiency in its operations is indeed subject to interpretation. But what's literally at issue here?

Indecisions of key policymakers!

We wish to talk and talk and talk, occasionally punctuated by all-expenses-paid junkets to nearby Asia. Eh, throw in the taxpayer-paid junkets beyond Guam. The guys and gals wish to revisit the golden skies to see if it still has its hue and color when viewed from upstairs. Why not just charter a chopper for a quick visit to the dome upstairs?

The Wiseman court has thrown out the power purchase agreement, saying the former governor can't sole-source the contract. Interesting the erroneous attribution that it's a \$190 million deal. Did reporters verify this by actually paging through the contract? Isn't it more like \$70 million and a 10-percent cut against the prevailing power rates? CUC isn't off the hook as yet. It's best that the case is heard in federal court in the interest of justice.

Rep. Janet Maratita declared it a "victory" for the NMI. With CUC destined to keep passing additional expenses to power rate-payers as to make power unaffordable, where in this scenario do you see a victory for taxpayers? Power bills will keep increasing, health premium has just gone up by 40-45 percent, the cost of basic goods are spiking, health deductibles and medication also increased while you folks take to junketing at taxpayers' expense? Sorry, we the taxpayers aren't as dumb as we look!

### Senselessness aplenty

Battered we may be, it's the net result of indecisions and inactions of policymakers on the hill. I'd like to think the steady pulse of hardship is as temporary as morning dew. But village sentiment

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at [EdStephensJr.com](http://EdStephensJr.com). His column runs every Friday.



cheeseburgers. Hey, everybody's good at something.

As for Saipan, if you feel like standing on Suicide Cliff and staring off into blank space, pondering the vastness of the great beyond, then I'll note that M82 is in Saipan's northern sky, hanging low. I don't recall ever seeing it in binoculars, so, for me at least, it's purely telescope territory.

What I like best about SN 2014J is how it was discovered. London's skies are often cloudy, as they were on the night in question, and the discoverers picked M82 to observe because it happened to be in a clear patch of sky.

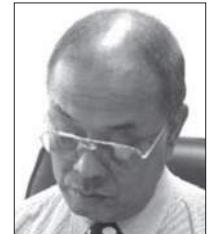
Right place. Right time. Fast thinking. A great story!

## Laboratory of economic freedom

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



says otherwise. No rocket science stuff either.

People pine for leadership, any leadership! They no longer could deal with the pile of increases in the cost of living here. Interesting, though, the attitude among policymakers who have joined the chorus, convinced they too are victims of their own self-inflicted inactions and indecisions.

Really? Familiar refrain I've heard recently in Obama's SOTU where he grandly failed to find a scapegoat for his failed policies. His rhetoric is his own nemesis. Here at home, inaction and warped perception or misperception hasn't been of help to the suffering multitude.

I honestly demand to know from policymakers what do they really make of the persistent debilitating livelihood of people they represent upstairs. Interesting to probe the root of their apathy, insensitivity and persistence in sinking the conditions of villagers as a direct result of mediocrity. Or is it the people in the villages who missed their cue in the senselessness descending from upstairs?

### Retirees vs health premium woes

It's aggravatingly mind-numbing to learn that the increase in health premiums has rendered some retirees "negative" income. In other words, when the new increase kicked in, their paycheck is loaded with zeroes and even if they pile with their check stubs, it remains a huge fat zero income.

Some have decided to pull out of the health premium program altogether in order to meet family needs. It's really sad the condition upon which they are forced to decide: food for the family without health coverage or health premiums without food.

Indeed, some have decided to forego paying the new increase in health premiums. The system games this family when loved ones need medical attention. Would they qualify for Medicaid? If not, then how do we help them? Can Gov. Inos and our illustrious Deligate Kilili offer some respite to the displaced group of retirees?

Furthermore, I can't quite understand pushing for Obamacare when it has failed and disrupted lives across the country for millions of citizens. Why do we accept it here *carte blanche* fashion? Whatever happened to the geniuses in the administration and Kilili's office on an issue that has floored family income down to zero? Are we supposed to accept this mandate in servile fashion too because someone failed to see the tsunami of increases headed our way?

Where was the 29-member Legislature on this score? Out for another prolonged luncheon? We can't even handle the debacle of the retirement program and this issue and we're spouting for more self-government?

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°	▲ 87° ▾ 76°

## Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 84 ▾ 76
Palau	Showers	▲ 84 ▾ 76
Yap	Showers	▲ 88 ▾ 76
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 86 ▾ 79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▾ 79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▾ 79
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▾ 80

## Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▾ 65
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 41 ▾ 16
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▾ 64
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 78 ▾ 67
London	Rain	▲ 48 ▾ 43
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62 ▾ 49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▾ 75
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 98 ▾ 76
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83 ▾ 72
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 29 ▾ 15
Osaka	Showers	▲ 43 ▾ 39
Paris	Showers	▲ 50 ▾ 44
Pusan	Showers	▲ 50 ▾ 34
Rome	Windy	▲ 60 ▾ 49
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 39 ▾ 27
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲ 57 ▾ 51
Seoul	Snow	▲ 39 ▾ 27
Tokyo	Ice	▲ 42 ▾ 41
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 41 ▾ 26

## Tides

### Sunrise/Sunset

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:45 AM	6:18 PM	Today	12:09 PM	12:20 AM
Saturday	6:44 AM	6:18 PM	Saturday	12:55 PM	1:11 AM
Sunday	6:44 AM	6:18 PM	Sunday	1:43 PM	2:02 AM
Monday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM	Monday	2:31 PM	2:51 AM
Tuesday	6:43 AM	6:19 PM	Tuesday	3:19 PM	3:38 AM

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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

#### ■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

#### ■ BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

#### ■ SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

#### ■ TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 25, 2014

### DEPARTURES

#### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5039	1:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

#### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	1:35pm	2:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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#### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	2:40pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
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#### SAIPAN-OSSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
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#### SAIPAN-MARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
DL297	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily

#### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
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#### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
D2102	2:20am	5:50am	3
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ6063	3:30am	7:20am	4, 7 will increase eff Jan 29
D2104	2:00pm	5:30pm	6
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

#### SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
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#### SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5
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#### SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

# The reluctant hero: An open letter to veteran Lloyd Glick

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Walt F.J. Goodridge is the author of Turn Your Passion Into Profit, Living True to Your Self, several books about Saipan, and is the "as told to" co-author of Bugle Boy to Battle Ship: A Battle of Saipan Veteran's Memoirs by Lloyd Glick.*

"Sometimes, your identity is as much how you perceive yourself as it is how others perceive you."

—Walt Goodridge

**O**n Feb. 3 and 4, 2014, I had the opportunity to conduct land tours of the islands of Guam and Saipan for Lloyd Glick, a returning World War II veteran, and his wife, Judy. Seventy-one years ago, Lloyd was stationed aboard the battleship USS *North Carolina*, during the pivotal Battle of Saipan and Battle of Guam. The ship was part of the fleet that bombed the islands in preparation for the ground invasion by U.S. troops. Lloyd's official rank was "Musician Second Class," and he was the trumpeter in a 20-piece swing band onboard the ship. Bands were part of the repair department aboard the ship, and so his other duties included maintenance, firefighting as well as specific battle station duties when the ship was

**TRIVIA:** On 30 June 1941 (prior to Pearl Harbor bombing), the Marine Corps had 3,642 officers and 41,394 enlisted Marines, and was expanding at the rate of 2,000 enlistments a month. After Pearl Harbor, the enlistments exploded with 8,500 in December 1941, 13,000 in January 1942, and 10,000 in February. By June of that year, the strength of the Marine Corps had more than tripled.

The following, therefore, are a few of my thoughts on the matter. If you agree with them, or have some of your own, I'd like you to help me share them with Lloyd (instructions to follow).

**People choose their heroes.**  
Lloyd, being a hero is not always about rescuing cats from

*See HERO on Next Page*

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Musician second class Lloyd Glick, Walt Goodridge and Judy Glick on Saipan, with the cruise ship *Crystal Serenity* in the background.

JIM DAVIES

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**HERO**

From Page 13

trees, or taking a hill and capturing the enemy all by yourself. People choose their heroes and, quite frankly, you often have no choice or say in the matter.

You are a hero because right after Pearl Harbor, when others ran away, stayed silent, or remained at home, you, at age 19, ran toward the fray. That puts you in a narrow field with the tens of thousands who enlisted in the months immediately following.

You are a hero to those in Guam, because, regardless of your individual contribution while on the ship, you were part of the overall force to whom the island owes its gratitude for liberation.

You are a hero to those in the United States because you are part of group of men and women who've been assigned the seemingly hyperbolic, yet arguably deserved name of "the greatest generation," characterized by a rare selflessness and penchant for personal sacrifice in the face of national interests—traits many consider lacking in today's society.

You are a hero to people in every nation around the world simply because you are here with us to tell your story and to keep the memory and reality of that era alive. That puts you in a field of a small, elite group of World War II veterans.

As you can see, as long as you choose to be here among us, none of these are under your control to opt out of, or go back in time to change. You're stuck with them. Yes, people choose whom they call "hero."

**The real tragedy**

It's a profound, yet often overlooked aspect of war that the people who actually fight and die in battle are not the individuals who actually start the wars. Wars don't simply "break out." Average citizens living their daily lives don't simply wake up one morning and decide, en masse, to wage war.

No, war is a specifically chosen, orchestrated, and executed option for responding to a situation or fulfilling an agenda; and specific individuals who make these decisions.

Nations enter into war because of the interests, agendas, and decisions of individual members of an elite ruling class acting more often than not on corporate and political interests that oftentimes have little concern or respect for the will or ultimate benefit of the people. It's a tragedy, therefore, the loyalties and national pride of the masses are swayed and exploited, and that it is the innocent citizenry who risk and lay down their lives in the furtherance of these agendas.

**'Wars are never declared by the individuals who end up fighting and dying'**

**in them.'**

Yes, Lloyd, I agree that war is tragedy. People lose their lives who would otherwise be alive. People abandon dreams they would otherwise pursue. People lose loved ones who would otherwise have remained safe at home. Nations fight against nations, man against man, and an individual across the oceans, whom I've never met, suddenly becomes my "enemy," and we are forced to kill each other to further the agendas of far away individuals and corporations. Yes, the losses of war are tragic all the way around. We as a society must bear the burden for the *real* tragedy: that we allow others to send us to our deaths killing people we don't know and have never met. The burden of the deaths of your fellow service members, Lloyd, and the unfulfilled dreams they represent are not yours to carry alone. It is a function of the way things have developed that we as a society must strive to eliminate.

**Noble intentions and the heinous and heroic**

Yes, throughout history and up to very recent times, we learn that leaders have often endorsed, declared, entered into, and committed their citizens to the violence of war under false pretenses. The emotions of the masses are exploited for political and financial gain. It's a shame that innocent individuals—and by that I mean all the rest of us—are caught up in

the frenzy of fear and façade of fighting foes.

**People enter into and engage in the most ignoble of activities often under the most noble of intentions**

The irony, however, is that those who choose to fight, however, often choose to do so with the noblest of intentions that include allegiance and commitment to family, future, and freedom. They travel to foreign lands to commit the most violent acts in the name of peace and the preservation of free civilization.

It is this fact that presents us with one of the most volatile and irreconcilable of contradictions in our society: where, on one hand, individuals are praised as "hero" for actions that, on the other hand, are condemned as heinous.

However, neither the manipulation that sparks it nor the contradiction that ensues should minimize or trivialize the purity of the intentions behind them. You are a hero, Lloyd, because your intentions are pure.

**The Liberator's Lot**

Fortunately, in some cases, the line between "right" and "wrong" are more clearly drawn. Yes, in some cases, there are indeed measurable, quantifiable and positive outcomes for the people and the lands affected by the violence of war.

*"There are no hierarchies*

**based on rank or role in the job description of 'liberator.'**—Walt

On the island of Guam, Lloyd, you heard the term "liberator" used freely and often in everyday parlance with respect to veterans like yourself. Present-day Guamanians recognize that the story of Guam would be radically different today had it not been for the invasion and the wresting of it from Japanese control. And Lloyd, whether you shelled or shucked, cooked or cleaned, battled or bugled as part of the force that participated in that liberation, you will be cast—however much you resist—alongside everyone else without regard for the specific task list assigned your individual job title. In other words, when it comes down to it, there is no hierarchy based on rank or role in the job description of "liberator." Respect is due to all.

And with all due respect as well to the loss of life on *both* sides of the imaginary line between "friend" and "foe," you, Lloyd Glick, remain and exist as a symbol of a pivotal moment in history that marked a transition in governance, and which holds significance in the day-to-day lives of people in Guam who are grateful.

So, you're stuck with it, Lloyd. It may seem undeserved to you. It may make you feel uncomfortable and stir within you the need to protest, but this is your lot in life. The mantle of

"liberator" (read: "hero") is forever yours in Guam.

**The Forever Sacrifice**

*"Some give their lives once, and a bullet seals the deal. Some give their lives forever, to help survivors heal."*—Walt

In helping you share your story, Lloyd, I've learned a few things about you.

I've learned that you've essentially dedicated your life to public service.

You started by using your and talent for music (your "given gift") and turning that passion toward the war effort so that others could be serenaded and soothed even amid the horror that is war.

After the war, you served on several police forces so that others may be safe.

Throughout our time together in Guam and Saipan, we heard others make constant positive references to your state of good health. I suspect that this too represents a service to your fellow service members. I suspect that through sheer strength of will (and the nurturing home life provided by a caring wife and partner), you've kept yourself fit and sharp in order to travel and continue to tell the tale as your own personal tribute to the lives and legacies of those with home you served. I suspect that this pilgrimage to Saipan

See HERO on Next Page

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\* Nissan Rogue Select retail price \$22,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$364.26 or \$168.12 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$21,855.60.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Politician wolves bearing gifts

The timing of politicians in addressing payment of 25-percent diminution of retirees' pension, land compensation, wage increase to federal minimum wage level, and high power rate is suspect of general election wolves bearing gifts. Wolves bearing gifts is a scheme used by politicians to deceive voters for their votes. A scheme to convince us voters that they are truly representing our interest when it is very obvious that politicians are just playing their political gamesmanship to ensure they get elected. The questions that we the voters should ask these politicians is why act just now? Why haven't they taken care of these issues right there and then when it first became public knowledge that it will affect the life of everyone of us in the CNMI? Why wait until election year? Other than for political rhetoric, what are your realistic plans of action?

On Nov. 15, 2013, "[a] bill [in the House seeking] to restore the 25-percent cut in retirees' pension and ensure the payment of interest earned by active employees both under the defined benefit

## Concerns over marijuana rebutted

I knew there would be some concerns about the legalization of marijuana in the CNMI and I was glad there were virtually no public bashing attacks, which speaks volumes of the support for legalization and the mindset of the silent majority. I would like to believe that most people are using their common sense and deliberating over the issue objectively with an open mind. I also truly appreciate those who do have an open mind and even support the legalization of marijuana, especially those in the comment section. But there was the ever present cyber rats in the comment section with unfounded concerns, so I will address their concerns for the sport of it.

Just to show readers the ridiculous excuses and rationale: Complaints about my writing, really! FYI, I incorporate my officially recognized language of Ebonics in my letters and if you don't like capital words meant to accentuate and the terms "for true," "heller," and others, that is your personal problem—not the general public's. Concerns about what we need to do before legalization is literally putting the horse behind our cart as we already have the experiences of two states to know what to do and do it even better, which includes the best practices for control, the necessary education on drugs with stricter and appropriate child protection laws and the sale of marijuana *only* in state stores. We don't have to reinvent the wheel when we have two good examples! There are also no "ifs" for the CNMI as two states have done it with no plans to stop selling legalized marijuana. FYI, Colorado experienced over 8,000 marijuana arrests the year before legalization but only a little over 1,000 after it was legalized. Marijuana crime actually went down 700 percent, allowing law enforcement to chase down the real drugs and criminals.

As for the complaint that money is not everything, well, money is the *only* thing that is going to pay the retirees and take care of the

## HERO

*From Page 14*

and Guam, as well as the autobiography you've allowed me the honor of preparing on your behalf are, quite frankly, additional ways for you to honor and salute your fellow soldiers, sailors and airmen. That's just a theory of mine, but that's my story and I'm sticking to it!

It's evident you've chosen to dedicate your life to service. The life of service to which you've committed yourself all these years is a great "forever sacrifice" chosen as a way to honor your war mates. One group makes an ultimate sacrifice and hand over their lives on the battlefield. Another group makes a forever sacrifice and hand over *their* lives by way of ongoing service in the memory of the first group. Both groups are heroes.

And finally, I see you as a hero, because with all the evidence of bravery, noble inten-

tions, personal sacrifice and life-long service staring you in the face, you still don't see Lloyd Glick the way others see him. By my estimation, that puts you in league with the humble. And, my good friend, Lloyd, from where I stand, it doesn't get any more heroic than that!

Sincerely,  
Walt Goodridge

*\*If you'd like to tell Lloyd your thoughts and opinions about his service and what the concept of "hero" means to you, look for the link to this Tribune article at [facebook.com/welovesaipan](http://facebook.com/welovesaipan), or email Lloyd at [bugleboy@bestofsaipan.com](mailto:bugleboy@bestofsaipan.com). Read more about Lloyd's island pilgrimage tour and hero's welcome on Guam and Saipan at [www.guamdaytours.com/glick](http://www.guamdaytours.com/glick) and at [www.discoverSaipan.com/glick](http://www.discoverSaipan.com/glick).*

plan" was prefiled, but did not identify the specific sources to fund these other than "new revenue sources." The question that we voters should ask these politicians is, where is the source of revenue to restore the 25-percent cut in retirees' pension? Is this another empty promise?

On Jan. 28, 2013, it was reported that a bill was prefiled in the House that would increase "immediately"—or 180 days after it becomes law—the local minimum wage to \$7.25 an hour to match the federal level. Let us not forget that this is the same House that endorsed and supported suspension of the yearly wage increase. Why the change in heart? It is because it's election year?

On Jan. 29, 2014, it was reported that the House "is proposing to appropriate \$1 million in Managaha Island landing fee to pay some landowners whose properties were taken by the government for public access roads..." Politicians are now scrounging for even just a "drop in the bucket" funds to compensate landowners for landowners are dead serious to vote out all non-productive incumbent politicians this coming general election. Politician wolves bearing gifts will not deter voters this time around to voting them out from our public offices.

On Jan. 29, 2014, it was reported that "[I]jawmakers take turns excoriating CUC." Lawmakers are asking "CUC what cost-cutting measures it has been doing." Isn't this a hypocritical question, when lawmakers themselves should also be "walking the talk"? Let's not forget that the government owes CUC millions

of dollars for their power consumption, one of the factors instigating the high cost of our power rate. We the people are paying for the governor's failure to pay the CNMI government's power bills. And, other than taking turns bad-mouthing CUC for the irresponsible expenditures, what are the politicians doing to stop such wasteful spending?

Since we don't want to continue suffering due to 25-percent diminution in our pension, and since we want to be compensated for our lands taken by the government, and since we don't want to continue to live in a Third-World economy with Third-World minimum wages, and since we don't want to continue to dig deeper into our pockets to pay the ridiculously high power rate, therefore, let us not vote Eulogio Inos and Ralph Torres and their "IT" team; let us not vote for all the incumbent legislators who are not doing anything for the people.

For your information, I am discovering more *kuchinada* (dirtiness) regarding the Marpi landfill emergency contract. You might have guessed it! Eulogio Inos approved the "emergency" contract, which begs the question: Was the Marpi landfill six-month "emergency" contract a payback for the contractor and others? Or was it a playback of the same old corruption? More to come on this smelly landfill "emergency" contract.

**Jesus I. Taisague**

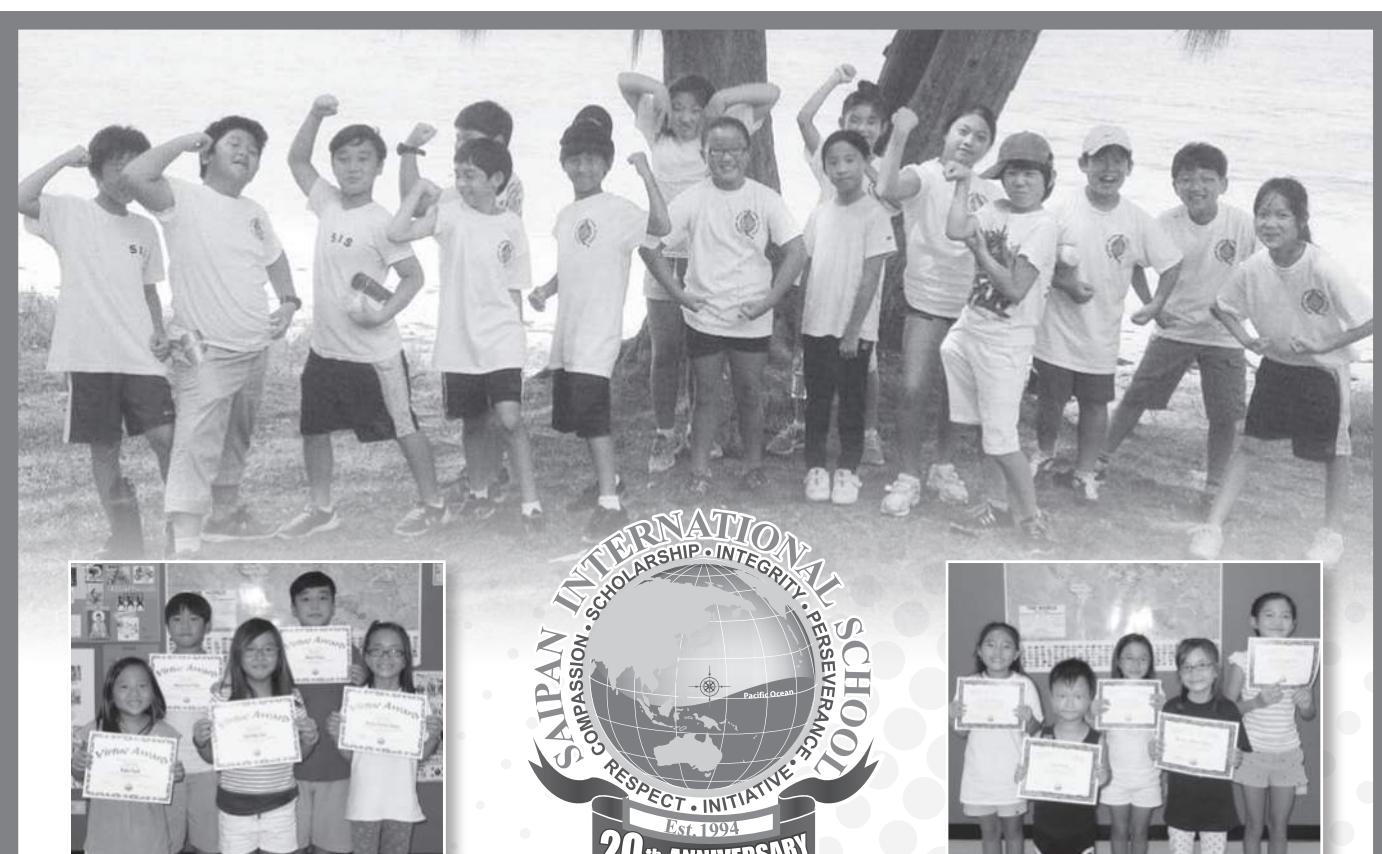
Koblerville, Saipan

low the examples of two state legislatures, two governors, and the President's suggestion than to follow people like the cyber rats and their information based on a blog. Anyway, it is common knowledge that the CNMI is slow to change but we only get this chance once to be out front in the race for economic prosperity from the sale of legalized marijuana—a chance to ride an economic wave that we can't afford to miss literally.

P.S.: There is nothing to fear but fear itself. After all, on Tuesday the Washington D.C. City Council passed a measure—approved by a vote of 11-1—that would move the District of Columbia one step closer to decriminalizing marijuana for private use in most cases. So I must ask, if the capital of our nation is decriminalizing, are we really going to be dead last in America again or one of the first?

**Ambrose M Bennett**

Kagman, Saipan



Saipan International School is celebrating 20 years of academic excellence.

We would like to show our commitment to the CNMI with our **Financial Aid Program** (up to \$2,000 per year) for Elementary age (K5 to 5) students born in the CNMI, for the 2014-2015 school year.

Application forms are available from the school office.

**Deadline for submission is April 15, 2014.**

For further information please call 288 9660.



# 'Most prostitutes in Garapan not there willingly'

By MARK RABAGO  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Majority of prostitutes in Saipan's tourist district of Garapan had no plans to join the world's oldest profession, according to former U.S. Labor ombudsman Pamela Brown.

"Most of prostitutes who are down in Garapan are not there willingly. They're there because they owe money to someone [and] their families are being threatened. We've had many people attempt suicide because of threats to their families. Their family's homes have also been burned down in China [and] members of their families have been killed in China. So this is a serious, serious situation," she said as one of the speakers of the Rotary Club of Saipan's weekly meeting Tuesday at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Streetwalkers and other aliens' sad plight begin when they are unknowingly trafficked into the CNMI, she said.

Brown specifically set up Pacific Ombudsman for Humanitarian Law, where she is president, to help victims of human trafficking not only in the CNMI but across the region as well.

She said some of the current problems started just before the federal government took over immigration of the Commonwealth.

"We had cases in 2009 right before the federal government took over local immigration. We had a huge onslaught of mainly Chinese but also Indian nationals who were told that if they were here when federal takeover happens, they would be automatically granted U.S. citizenship and could go to Guam and help with the military buildup."

Brown said many of them paid anywhere between \$4,000 and \$60,000 and majority didn't even know they were being trafficked.

"They just find out that's something's wrong because when they get here it's not what they've been told. They're told to get this and there's an extra fee for that. They keep paying, paying, paying to this organization that is well organized and had a common thread throughout India and China."

And because of the debt they accumulate, they are forced to work in jobs or do things against their will.

## Help from service providers

Brown said there exists a human

trafficking intervention coalition in the Commonwealth and through this, they've been able to reach out and help victims of human trafficking.

"There was one operation and we ended up working long and hard. Luckily we're blessed to have a shelter here in the CNMI, which not many of the island-nations [in the Pacific] do. Through Guma Esperanza and assistance by translators and volunteers from many other ethnicities on island like the Russians, the Nepalese, and the Thai we were able to after months and months and months of working with these victims to finally get the real story out of them."

Brown said they eventually found out that they were indeed trafficked into the CNMI.

"We were treating it as labor recruitment fraud or labor contract fraud. In reality they were getting here and being trafficked to prostitution, they were being taken to bars and forced to work without being paid, nothing was explained to them except for 'if you don't do what we tell you, we would take you to immigration and they will deport you.'"

## Recruiting Rotary

To this end, Brown joined U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco in inviting the Rotary Club to join the coalition and help stop human trafficking in the region.

"We have a human trafficking intervention coalition in the CNMI and we've often discussed inviting Rotary to join us. We know you do this kind of good work and a public service organization. But the best way you can help us is just pay attention on what's going around you."

She told Rotarians to keep their eyes peeled for telltale signs of human trafficking in their neighborhoods.

"If there's an apartment building next door that is jam-packed with Chinese who don't seem to be doing anything except for wandering around, let us know. Because most likely that's probably where they're holding them until they figure out what they can do to them. We're just trying to get the word out to every community throughout the Pacific—Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia."



# GOOD NEWS!

## U-LUCK POKER

is happy to announce that we are having a raffle to acknowledge all our valued customers.  
We want to express our deepest gratitude by having the following raffles.



**2014  
TOYOTA  
YARIS  
WORTH  
\$18,800**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b>	<b>ROUND TRIP TICKET FROM SAIPAN TO NEW YORK, USA (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$1500/EA.</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b>	<b>ROUND TRIP TICKET FROM SAIPAN TO SHANGHAI, CHINA (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$1000.00/EA.</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b>	<b>ONE WEEK ACCOMMODATION AT SUNSHINE GARDEN (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$623.00/EA.</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Prize</b>	<b>SCOOTER (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$500.00/EA.</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Prize</b>	<b>GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR SUNSHINE RESTAURANT (2 WINNERS) WORTH \$200.00/EA.</b>

Please see the table chart below on how to get your raffle ticket

BET	STRAIGHT FLUSH	5 OF A KIND	ROYAL FLUSH
10 bet - 18 bet (\$0.05)	2 ticket	4 ticket	8 ticket
5 bet (\$0.25)	2 ticket	5 ticket	25 ticket
6 bet - 10 bet (\$0.25)	5 ticket	10 ticket	50 ticket
11 bet - 20 bet (\$0.25)	10 ticket	20 ticket	100 ticket
21 bet - 40 bet (\$1.00)	20 ticket	40 ticket	200 ticket

"ALL PRIZES CAN'T BE EXCHANGE INTO CASH"

**Tel: 233-0108 • Garapan next to Kimchi Cabana Karaoke  
65 days left before raffle day! Raffle date: April 12, 2014**

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

January 13, 2014

### To All Our Valued Customers:

We would like to extend our utmost gratitude to all our valued customers by giving good prizes on our raffle promo, but unfortunately, the Department of Finance informed us that the regulations specifically limits the prizes to merchandise valuing less than \$35,000.00 and prohibits cash prizes.

We would like to express our deepest apology regarding the changes we've had to make in order for our raffle promo to go on.

We hope for your understanding and continued support.

U-LUCK POKER MANAGEMENT

# 9 parents, 15 kids finish Motheread/Fatheread reading program

To begin the New Year, nine parents and 15 children participated in a Motheread/Fatheread adult course and Story Exploring course at Green Meadow School and at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

The Motheread/Fatheread adult course combines the teaching of literacy skills with child development and family empowerment issues. Parents and children learn to use the power of language to discover more about themselves their families, and their communities.

It offers classes for both the adults and children. In adult classes, participants learn to be story readers, writers, and tellers in a group structure that supports their own sense of worth and ability. These classes are appropriate for all adults regardless of reading ability or prior educational experience. By teaching the "why" of reading rather than just emphasizing the "how," classes encourage parents to be reading role models for their children. For children, Story Exploring provides a structured environment for learning reading, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.

At Green Meadow School, the courses started on Dec. 3, 2013, and ended on Jan. 31, 2014. Before completion certificates were awarded to the participants, the parents at this site each gave a short presentation or reflections that highlighted their learning experiences in the training sessions.

Joan Durano said: "Motheread/Fatheread program was a good help for me and my children. I learned reading techniques that helped and will encourage my children to read, more especially to the little ones. All of the books and excerpts that we read and tackled will serve as an example to me. All the thoughts, opinions, writings, reading, and reading aloud that we all have shared in the class are a different experience that I had in a long time. And I started to share some of that to my children and I will continue to do it. Teach them that reading is fun and it will give them a bright future ahead, because for me this program is all about them...our children."

Vera Apeda said: "I've been waiting for a program like this because as a single working mother of two great kids, sometimes or almost all of the time I'm tired from work, but so grateful to have them in life. I would like to thank this program, it helped me a lot, and learned a lot. I will try to apply this everyday for the benefit of my kids."

Another parent, Rachael Merced, said: "In this Motheread/Fatheread Family Literacy Course, it fills me with confidence to read books to my children, spend quality time with them, and we were connecting stories to events in our daily lives. As a parent reading books and learning new words with my children is a good way of teaching while they are still young. Teach them to be responsible, be prepared and let them learn, encourage our children."

Nida Agbayani ended with, "...I appreciate this program because it helped me, remind me to help my children to improve their listening, speaking, and reading skills and also writing."

Participants for this cycle were Joan Durano, Nida Agbayani, Verna Apeda, and Rachael Merced. Bryan Manabat facilitated the trainings at this site.

Green Meadow School chair Saturnino Sungcuan and MR coordinators Vi-



Participants of a Motheread/Fatheread adult course and Story Exploring course at Green Meadow School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Participants of a Motheread/Fatheread adult course and Story Exploring course at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ola Deleon Guerrero and Beth Demapan attended the mini-event. They gave short remarks and thanked participants for their commitment to teaching their children the love of books and literacy skills. Light refreshments followed.

On Monday, Feb. 3, 2014, parents Adelfa Corpuz, Sun Young Kang, and Jeong Won Kim completed the adult course at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

The eight-session course started last

Dec. 16, 2013, and was led by the Motheread Program coordinator Viola Deleon Guerrero.

In both class trainings, Motheread/Fatheread trainers exposed participants to varied multicultural children's literature that will engage their children at home. Effective research-based techniques and strategies were shared in both courses that will lay the foundation for reading success, and success

in school. Facilitators also emphasized the role that parents play as the first teacher of their child, and that a lifetime of literacy starts at home.

A Story Exploring course for children was also held in concurrence with the adult courses. Story Exploring provides a structured environment for learning reading, critical thinking, and problem solving skills for students.

Story Sharing instructor Milagros

Merjilla led the children at Green Meadow School with the assistance of Anita Delgado from time to time. Merjilla is also the president of GMS.

Participating children at GMS were Anna Julia Dalusong, Vimarie Afeche, Honey Satur, Renz Satur, Robin Agbayani, and Art Vincent Afeche.

Assistant Motheread coordinator Beth Demapan engaged the children in reading adventure at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Malia Benavente, Kekoa Ito, Kiyokazu Suzuki Gonzales, Genzo Suzuki Gonzales, Ian Song, Joan Song, Justin Calvo, Ashley Kim, and Toby Rospel were the participating children at this site.

Adult course sessions and story exploring for children are ongoing at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library every Monday, from 5pm to 6pm. Another series of Motheread/Fatheread adult course cycles will begin at the Head Start Centers this March.

The schedules are:

- March 10, 2014, every Monday at 5:30pm; Tanapag and Kagman Head Start Centers.

- March 11, 2014, every Tuesday at 5:30pm; Dandan and San Antonio Head Start Centers.

- March 12, 2014, every Wednesday at 5:30pm; Oleai and Chalan Kanoa, and Songsong Head Start Centers.

- March 13, 2014, every Thursday at 5:30pm; Garapan (JMR), Tinian, and Sinapalo Head Start Centers.

CNMI Motheread/Fatheread program is a literacy program administered by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council. For more information, contact enmimotheread@gmail.com or call 235-7319, cell: 989-8542, and text us at 788-5785. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Back row, from left: Micronesian Voyaging Society member Alan Seid, NMC dean David Attao, NMC director Floyd Masga, PCC president Patrick U. Tellei, CNMI Rep. John Paul "JP" Sablan, CNMI Rep. Ramon Tebuteb, MVS president Shallum Etpison, and MVS mediator Ephraim Ngirachitei. Front row, from left: MVS member Dr. Victor Yano, MVS member Ibedul Yutaka N. Gibbons, MVS member Tina Rechucher Marug, and MVS member Reklai Raphael B. Ngirmang. Not in photo are MVS member Sesario Sewralur and Palau President Tommy E. Remengesau Jr.

## CNMI delegation visits Palau

A delegation of officials from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands is currently in Palau, seeking ways to strengthen the working relationship between our two communities.

The delegation includes Rep. Ramon Tebuteb, Rep. John Paul "JP" Sablan, Northern Marianas College Community Development Institute director Floyd Masga, and NMC dean of Administration and Resource Development David Attao.

While in Palau, the officials will meet with members of the Micronesian Voyaging Soci-

## SPC marks 67th anniversary

**NOUMEA, New Caledonia—**The Secretariat of the Pacific Community celebrated its 67th anniversary yesterday, Feb. 6, as an international organization dedicated to the Pacific region.

Founded in 1947 under the Canberra Agreement, SPC is an organization that has grown and evolved over time and is now recognized worldwide as a specialist in its specific work areas, which include public health, geoscience, agriculture, forestry, water resources, disaster management, fisheries, statistics, transport, energy, human rights, gender, youth and culture.

Now with more than 600 staff located at SPC headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia; the regional office in Suva, Fiji; a country office in Honiara, Solomon Islands; and the North Pacific office in Pohnpei, Feder-

ated States of Micronesia.

SPC is embarking on a new term in its operations with a more cross-sectoral- and program-based approach to the Pacific's specific characteristics with a view to providing comprehensive and consistent responses to its member countries and territories' development issues built on the expert knowledge of its seven technical divisions.

A fresh senior management team composed of two new deputy directors general, i.e., Cameron Diver (Operations and Management), and Fabian McKinnon (Programmes), along with a new Director General, Dr. Colin Tukuitonga, will be addressing SPC's upcoming challenges, which include mainstreaming Pacific-related issues into the post-2015 development agenda. (SPC)

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy 11th birthday to our loving son, Ivan Angelo Sitchon, who is celebrating his 11th birthday tomorrow, Feb. 8! May your coming year be filled with success and happiness. We love you so much. Greetings coming from Mama and Papa.



Advanced happy birthday to Rhiner Aguon! We love you, hope you have a great one and many more to come. Love, Beng and most especially your kids Kayana, Nathaniel, Raymond, and Rhian.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**Grand Opening**

# Happy Poker

**Saturday, February 08, 2014**

**11:58PM**

**Same building as Gold Beach Hotel in Beach Road**

**OPEN  
24 hours**

**First 100 Customers will receive \$10.00 token**

**Light refreshments will be served - While Supplies last**

**Fireworks display**

# Green Meadow students shine at NJFL

Congratulations to the contestants from Green Meadow School for winning major places at the National Junior Forensic League, held

Cabrera, Vicente V. Medina B.  
P.O. Box 7224 SVRB  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No.: (670) 287-8364/ 287-7729

Prose

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS**

In The Matter Of ) CASE NO.  
The Adoption Of: ) 14-0055  
D.V.C.M. (10/12/2008), )  
Minor Child ) **NOTICE OF  
HEARING**  
By: )  
Vicente V. Cabrera and )  
Medina B. Cabrera )  
Petitioner(s)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on March 17, 2014, at 10:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Govendo.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 2014

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court  
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Name: Elizabeth Ada  
Address: SVRB 7203  
Telephone: 789-9183

Prose

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS**

In Re The Matter Of ) FCD GU  
The Petition To ) CIVIL ACTION  
Appoint General ) NO. 14-0049  
Guardianship For: )  
W.A.Jr. (D.O.B. 4/25/97) ) **NOTICE OF  
HEARING**  
Minor Child )  
By: )  
Elizabeth Ada )  
Petitioners

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on March 20, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 29th day of January, 2014.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court  
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

at Hopwood Junior High School on Jan. 18, 2014. Good job, Falcons! Keep up the good work.

**1ST PLACE**

Prose MD, Natalie Hirshbein  
Poetry A, Rbjacob Malonzo

**2ND PLACE**

Duo C, Natalie Hirshbein and Kimvherly Dela Cruz

Storytelling B, Natalie Hirshbein  
Poetry MA, Ian Williard Ranin

**4TH PLACE**

Duo A, Art Vincent Alfeche and Robin Agbayani

Humorous Interpretation A, Robin Agbayani

Storytelling B, Kimvherly Dela Cruz

**5TH PLACE**

Storytelling A, Art Vincent Alfeche

*Coach: Liz Espiritu*



GMS president Mila Merjilla and coach Liz Espiritu join the winning GMS students at the recent NJFL tilt held at Hopwood Junior High School. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## ...and at Math Court competition

The whole Green Meadow School family congratulates their students for delivering another excellent performance at the Math Court competition held on Feb. 1, 2014, at Koberville Elementary School. Falcons soar! We are all very proud of you!

Thank you to GMS parents who served as proctors: Arthur Anda, Lizette Pascua, Rommel Buenaflor, and Zenaida Marcelo. Congratulations to our hard-working coaches: Sony Natividad and Ana Liza Quiambao.

**Kinder 5**

2nd Place, Leonard Jake Re-

**galado**

2nd Place, Gwen Denise Lagmay

3rd Place, Ezra Alfred

3rd Place, Oscar Bien Buenaflor

**1st Grade**

2nd Place, Arro Hunter

**2nd Grade**

2nd Place, Nicole Sacramento

2nd Place, Andrielle Coloma

3rd Place, Patrick Gregorio

**3rd Grade**

4th Place, Angelene Faith Cadac

**5th Grade**

4th Place, Mikee Mame Mendoza



Green Meadow School students perform well at the Math Court competition held on Feb. 1, 2014, at Koberville Elementary School. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

## PROCUREMENT, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF PTZ CAMERAS AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-006-14

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement, installation & commissioning of PTZ cameras and security and surveillance systems at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Proposal Package and other considerations will be available for pick up beginning January 10, 2014 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement, Installation & Commissioning of PTZ cameras and Surveillance System, Project No. CPA-RFP-006-14". One original and four copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, February 7, 2014, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All Proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m., January 23, 2014 at the Port of Saipan Conference Room. Attendance at this pre-proposal conference is mandatory and only those vendors present at the pre-proposal conference will be allowed to submit proposals. A site visit may be conducted immediately after the conference or may be requested by making appointments with the CPA Seaport Manager to ensure that proposers submitting a proposal are aware of the general area where the cameras are to be installed.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejections or cancellations; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA.

CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Acting Executive Director

# 2014 Summer Pre-Law Program introduced to NMC students

On Monday, Feb. 3, 2014, and Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2014, NMI Judiciary law clerks Claire Kelleher-Smith and Nicole M. Torres spoke with Criminal Justice majors at Northern Marianas College and invited them to apply to the Judiciary Summer Pre-law Program. The students were treated to a personal glimpse of the path to law school, the law school experience, and the variety of career opportunities available upon graduation. Torres and Kelleher-Smith shared tips for obtaining positive letters of recommendation, drafting stand-out personal statements, and preparing for standardized tests.

The eighth Summer Pre-Law Program will be held at the Guma' Hustisia in Susupe from June 23 to July 11, 2014. The intensive program will introduce participants to legal study, and its analytical and writing demands; will prepare participants for the law school admissions process; and will connect participants to the CNMI legal community.



Law clerks  
Claire Kelleher-  
Smith and  
Nicole M.  
Torres speak  
to Northern  
Marian College  
students.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Delta named Airline of the Year by Air Transport World

**ATLANTA**—Delta Air Lines has been named the 2014 Airline of the Year by Air Transport World magazine, the first time for a U.S. carrier in a decade.

The ATW awards are among the most coveted and valued honors in the airline industry. In February 2014, ATW editors will present the 40th Annual Airline Industry Achievement Awards at a celebration in Singapore.

"It's an honor to have the hard work of Delta people recognized with the Airline of the Year award from Air Transport World," said Richard Anderson, Delta's chief executive officer. "Our values and culture are the foundation for our success. The professionalism and commitment of Delta people to our company, to one another and to our customers is unmatched."

In selecting Delta as Airline of

### »Airline is first US carrier to win coveted award in a decade

the Year, ATW editors cited leadership in several categories, including innovation and leadership by executive management; strong financial discipline; a consistent and excellent safety record; proven leadership in community, environmental and technological endeavors; consistent high standards of customer service; and excellent employee relations.

"The airline industry, here in the U.S. and globally, has never been as competitive, so when ATW editors make their Airline of the Year selection they focus on those airlines whose leadership truly stand out from the crowd through strong financial discipline, innovative thinking,

superb operational and customer service standards, and excellent employee relations, said ATW Editor-in-Chief Karen Walker. "Delta clearly met all those standards and has demonstrable, measurable statistics to prove it. Delta and its employees thoroughly deserve this award and I congratulate them on their achievements."

Winners and their achievements will be featured in a special section of the ATW March 2014 edition. Additionally, highlights of the Gala Awards event will also be published in the ATW April 2014 edition.

Delta in 2013 was named No. 1 airline on the Fortune magazine "Most Admired" global airline industry list for the second time in three years, received the No. 1 ranking in the

Business Travel News Annual Airline Survey for the third year in a row and was recognized as Best Domestic Airline at Travel Weekly Reader's Choice Awards, among other accolades.

Air Transport World is part of the Penton Aviation Week Network.

Delta Air Lines serves nearly 165 million customers each year. Delta was named by Fortune magazine as the most admired airline worldwide in its 2013 World's Most Admired Companies airline industry list, topping the list for the second time in three years.

Additional information is available on delta.com, Twitter @Delta, Google.com/+Delta, Facebook.com/delta and Delta's blog takingoff.delta.com. (PRNewswire)

### MARKETING COORDINATOR (MEDIA) JVA # C-1-2014-2

Candidates are to have the following minimum qualifications:

- Associates Degree in a marketing or business administration-related field or High School diploma with an additional two years of related experience
- Two years marketing experience, preferably in wireless telecommunications

Candidates must be able to demonstrate successful accomplishments in the following areas:

- Assist in the marketing and selling of all IT&E products and services for the Commonwealth market, including, but not limited to producing literature, films, press releases and other marketing materials using various audio video, print and copy editing software programs
- Coordinate and deliver marketing programs involving the sponsorship of local events
- Analyze performance results to determine methods of improving marketing programs

Candidate must also be able to

- Comprehend the technical aspects of wireless telecommunications products and services
- Communicate in English clearly, concisely and accurately with all levels of staff and customers, both verbally and in writing
- Plan, coordinate, review and correctly modify projects, programs, activities and events to ensure their success
- Establish and maintain cooperative and effective relationships with government officials, community and business organizations, IT&E clients and the general public
- Create a team environment and maintain employee morale
- Perform in a self-directed, hard-working, creative and forward thinking manner

Interested candidates must complete an IT&E application by Thursday, February 13, 2014, and submit it to IT&E Headquarters building in Susupe.



As an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer, we afford equal opportunity to all applicants and employees for hire and promotion without regard to race, color, origin, gender, age, marital status, religion, veteran status, or disability. We are also a Drug Free Workplace.

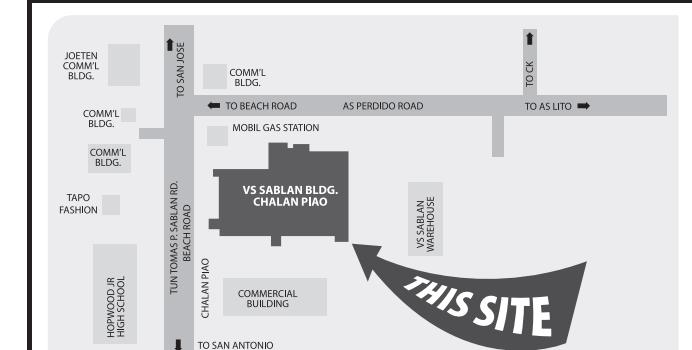


sions process; and will connect participants to the CNMI legal community.

Individuals who are pursuing or who have obtained undergraduate or graduate degrees are qualified to apply, and should apply by April 30, 2014, as space is limited.

Applications are available at: <http://www.justice.gov.mp/prelaw.aspx> and at the office of the Clerk of Court at the Guma' Hustisia. (NMI Judiciary)

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Large 4500 square foot space on the **second floor** that would be ideal for a Daycare Center, Dance Studio or Gym at **35¢ per square foot**.

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# Science & Technology

## Facebook barrels ahead on 10th year

**NEW YORK** (AP)—It has been 10 years since a Harvard sophomore named Mark Zuckerberg created a website called Thefacebook.com to let his classmates find their friends online.

They did. And in the decade since, so have more than a billion people, not just American college students but also farmers in India, activists in Egypt and pop stars in South Korea.

Facebook has transformed how much of the world communicates. Zuckerberg's insistence that people use real identities, not quirky screen names, helped blur, if not erase entirely, the divide between our online and offline worlds. Long-lost friends are no longer lost. They are on Facebook.

From its roots as a website with no ads, no business plan and a hacker ethic, Facebook has grown into a company worth \$150 billion, with 6,337 employees and sprawling headquarters in the heart of Silicon Valley. Born in the age of desktop computers, three years before the iPhone's debut, Facebook is now mainly accessed on mobile devices. Many of these mobile users never had a PC.

"People often ask if I always knew that Facebook would become what it is today. No way," Zuckerberg wrote—where else—on his Facebook page Tuesday. "I remember getting pizza with my friends one night in college shortly after opening Facebook. I told them I was excited to help connect our school community, but one day someone needed to

connect the whole world."

Facebook has had plenty of stumbles along the way, from privacy concerns to user protests when Facebook introduced new features, not to mention a rocky public stock debut in 2012. Even its origin was the subject of a lawsuit and a Hollywood movie.

So far, though, Facebook has trudged on.

As Facebook enters its second decade, the company faces a new set of challenges in reaching the next billion users, the billion after that, and the one after that,

including

the majority of the world without Internet access. It must also keep the existing set interested even as younger, hipper rivals emerge and try to lure them away.

There are 1.23 billion Facebook users today, or roughly 17 percent of the world's population. Although that's far from connecting the whole world, Facebook is here to stay. It's reached critical mass.

"One of the things Facebook has been good at is that it's very easy to use and understand," said Paul Levinson, professor of communications and media studies at Fordham University. "It's a much friendlier system than any email system."

Javier Olivan joined Facebook Inc. as vice president of growth and analytics in 2007. It was a different time. Myspace

was the dominant online hangout with 200 million members. Facebook had 30 million.

Facebook's user base had been accelerating steadily, Olivan said, as it expanded from Harvard's campus to other colleges, then high schools, and in 2006, anyone over 13. Users in the U.K. and other English-speaking countries then began signing up.

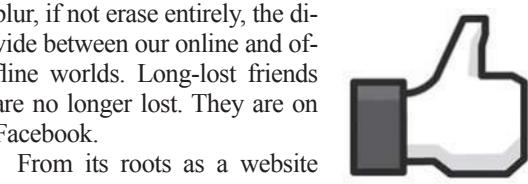
But around 2007, growth plateaued.

"The thinking at the time was (that) we'll never have 100 million users," Olivan said. "That's when the growth team was created."

If Facebook was going to connect the world, as its mission states, it couldn't be an English-only service. So Facebook turned to its users to help translate the site. A Spanish version came in 2008, followed by dozens of others. Growth accelerated again, and volunteer translators are still adding new tongues, whether that's native African languages or pirate slang.

Facebook got its 100 million users by August 2008 and half a billion two years later. By 2012, a billion people were logging in to Facebook at least once a month.

While sharing photos and updates with friends is a universal experience, Facebook is customized depending on where you live. In Japan, for example, users can list their blood type on their profiles, as it's something that would typically come up in conversation when you meet someone—kind of like horoscopes in the U.S.



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### TECH Q&A

## A phone app to rescue lost Comcast mail

By STEVE ALEXANDER  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION:** In December, I switched to a Samsung Galaxy 4 smartphone from a BlackBerry. While I can receive email on the phone from my two Comcast email accounts, the emails I send from the phone through the Comcast email system aren't being delivered. I haven't been able to get a solution from T-Mobile or Comcast. What can I do?—Kathy Vegoe, St. Paul, Minn.

**ANSWER:** There have been many online complaints about the difficulty of using Comcast email on Android (and occasionally Apple) smartphones. The most reliable fix appears to be using the Xfinity Connect App, rather than your phone's own mail application. Download instructions can be found on Comcast's website, at <http://tinyurl.com/4ys9d3d> (for Android phones and tablets) and <http://tinyurl.com/kqt9yvo> (for the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch).

The alternative is to switch to a less troublesome Web email, such as the free Google Gmail or Yahoo Mail services.

**Q:** When I turn on my 2004 Windows XP computer, it warns me that the firewall is not turned on. But for reasons that aren't clear, I haven't been able to activate the firewall. Meanwhile, my security software is detecting a lot of viruses on my PC. What can I do?—James R. Smith, New Brighton, Minn.

**A:** There are three answers.

One: You can turn on your Windows XP firewall by going to Control Panel and double-click-

ing "Network and Internet Connections," then clicking "Set up or change your home or small office network." Follow the steps outlined by Microsoft's "Network Setup Wizard."

Two: If that doesn't work, you can download a free firewall for Windows XP at <http://tinyurl.com/mcdzvk> (Comodo Firewall) or <http://tinyurl.com/msvxe3a> (Ashampoo FireWall Free).

Three: Buy a new Windows 7 computer (still made by HP, Asus, Dell and others). Avoid the confusing Windows 8. Microsoft is discontinuing security updates for Windows XP in April.

**NOTE:** Several readers questioned my advice that international travelers protect their electronic gadgets by using both electrical adapters, for wall outlet compatibility, and an electrical converter or transformer, to adjust the local voltage to the device's level. They noted that many devices can handle different voltages, and thus don't need a converter or a transformer.

It's true that many of today's gadgets are dual-voltage or multi-voltage and thus don't need voltage protection, but not all devices have these safeguards. For details on how to identify which gadgets need protection, and which don't, see <http://tinyurl.com/n4kpcpv> and <http://tinyurl.com/l7s4ua>.

*Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

# Off the Wall

## Mass. college man-in-undies sculpture causes controversy



A statue of a man sleepwalking in his underpants is surrounded by snow on the campus of Wellesley College, in Wellesley, Mass., Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014. AP

**WELLESLEY, Mass.** (AP)—A remarkably lifelike sculpture of a man sleepwalking in nothing but his underpants has made some Wellesley College students a bit uncomfortable, but the president of the prestigious women's school says that's all part of the intellectual process.

The sculpture entitled "Sleep-walker" of a man in an eyes-closed, zombie-like trance is part of an exhibit by sculptor Tony Matelli at the college's Davis Museum. It was placed at a busy area of campus on Monday, a few days before the official opening of the exhibit, and prompted an online student petition to have it removed.

The sculpture is a "source of apprehension, fear, and triggering thoughts regarding sexual assault" for many, according to the petition, which had nearly 300 signees on Wednesday.

The petition started by junior

Zoe Magid called on President H. Kim Bottomly to have the artwork removed.

That appeared unlikely, according to a joint statement issued Wednesday by Bottomly and museum Director Lisa Fischman.

"The very best works of art have the power to stimulate deeply personal emotions and to provoke unexpected new ideas, and this sculpture is no exception," the statement said. The sculpture "has started an impassioned conversation about art, gender, sexuality and individual experience, both on campus and on social media."

The sculpture was placed outdoors specifically to get a reaction and to connect the indoor exhibition with the world beyond, Fischman said.

"I love the idea of art escaping the museum and muddling the line between what we ex-

pect to be inside (art) and what we expect to be outside (life)," she wrote.

Reaction from the campus community was mixed.

Freshman Bridget Schreiner told The Boston Globe (<http://bo.st/1kcwSkC>) she was "freaked out" the first time she saw the sculpture, thinking for a moment that a real, nearly naked man was lingering on campus.

"This could be a trigger for students who have experienced sexual assault," she said.

Others were more understanding.

"I find it disturbing, but in a good way," English professor Sarah Wall-Randell said. "I think it's meant to be off-putting. It's a schlumpy guy in underpants in an all-women environment."

The exhibit opens Thursday and closes July 20.

### OFFBEAT BRIEFS

#### Would-be burglar apparently scared by singing fish

**ROCHESTER, Minn.** (AP)—Big Mouth Billy Bass apparently got the best of a would-be burglar in Minnesota. Authorities in Rochester say the motion-activated singing fish apparently scared off an intruder who tried to break into the Hooked on Fishing bait and tackle shop. The novelty bass had been hung near the door and would start singing "Take Me to the River" whenever someone entered the shop. The Olmsted County Sheriff's Office says the fish was found on the floor after the intruder knocked it down while breaking the door to get in late Sunday or early Monday.

#### Pope's Harley goes under auction hammer in Paris

**PARIS** (AP)—A Harley-Davidson motorcycle donated last year to Pope Francis is being sold at a Paris auction to benefit charity. It's unknown whether the pontiff ever rode the custom 2013 Dyna Super Glide that was a gift from Willie Davidson, a retired Harley-Davidson designer and grandson of the company's co-founder. The

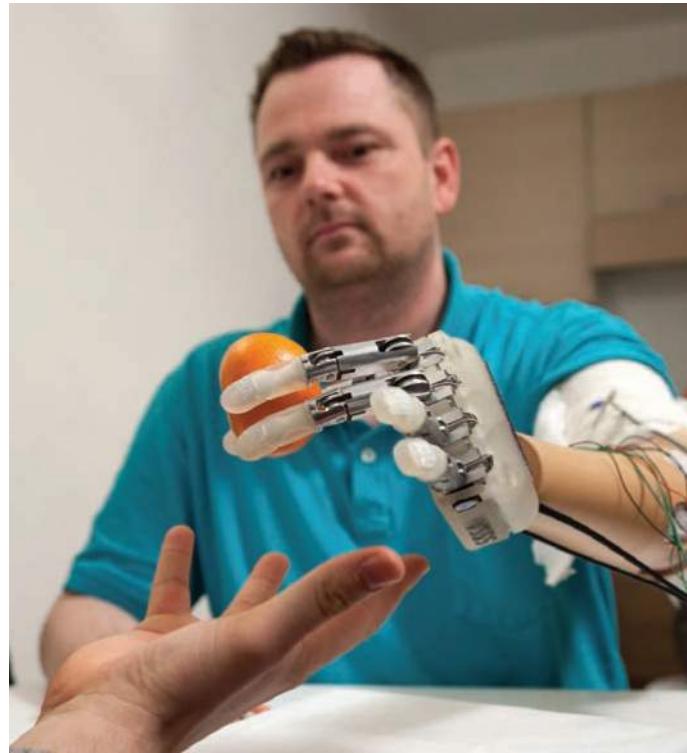
pope's hog is expected to fetch between 12,000 and 15,000 euros (\$16,000-\$20,000) when it goes under the hammer Thursday at the Grand Palais. Money from the sale will be donated to the Rome-based charity Caritas Roma, which runs a soup kitchen and a hostel for the homeless in the eternal city.

#### Dead Puerto Rico boxer posed standing in the ring

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico** (AP)—Even in death, Christopher Rivera Amaro almost looked ready to box, leaning against the corner of a simulated ring. Mourners who came to his wake in San Juan on Friday found him posed afoot, a yellow hood on his head, sunglasses glasses over his eyes and blue boxing gloves on his hands. Elsie Rodriguez, vice president of the Marin Funeral Home, said Rivera's family wanted to stress his boxing. The funeral home suggested posing him in a ring. The makeshift ring was set up in a community center of a public housing complex. Rodriguez told The Associated Press it took them several hours to create the scene.

# Life & Style

## Experiment adds a sense of touch to artificial hand



AP  
This March 2013 handout photo provided by Science Translational Medicine shows amputee Dennis Aabo Sørensen holding an orange while wearing sensory feedback enabled prosthesis in Rome.

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—To feel what you touch—that's the holy grail for artificial limbs. In a step toward that goal, European researchers created a robotic hand that let an amputee feel differences between a bottle, a baseball and a mandarin orange.

The patient only got to experiment with the bulky prototype for a week, and it's far from the bionics of science fiction movies. But the research released Wednesday is part of a major effort to create more lifelike, and usable, prosthetics.

"It was just amazing," said Dennis Aabo Sorensen of Aalborg, Denmark, who lost his left hand in a fireworks accident a decade ago and volunteered to pilot-test the new prosthetic. "It was the closest I have had to feeling like a normal hand."

This isn't the first time scientists have tried to give some sense of touch to artificial hands; a few other pilot projects have been reported in the U.S. and Europe. But this newest experiment, published in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*, shows Sorensen not only could tell differences in the shape and hardness of objects, he also could quickly react and adjust his grasp.

"It was interesting to see how fast he was able to master this," said neuroengineer Silvestro Micera of Switzerland's Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, who led the Swiss and Italian research team. "He was able to use this information immediately in a quite sophisticated way."

Scientists have made great strides in recent years in improving the dexterity of prosthetics. But the sense of touch has been a much more difficult challenge, and is one reason that many patients don't use their

prosthetic hands as much as they'd like.

Consider: Grab something and your own hand naturally grasps with just enough force to hang on. Users of prosthetic hands have to carefully watch every motion, judging by eye instead of touch how tightly to squeeze. The results can be clumsy, with dropped dishes or crushed objects.

"You always have to look and see what's going on, so that's what is so much different from this new hand that I tried," Sorensen, 36, said in a telephone interview.

First, doctors at Rome's Gemelli Hospital implanted tiny electrodes inside two nerves—the ulnar and median nerves—in the stump of Sorensen's arm.

Those nerves normally would allow for certain sensations in a hand. When researchers zapped them with a weak electrical signal, Sorensen said it felt like his missing fingers were moving, showing the nerves still could relay information.

Meanwhile, Micera's team put sensors on two fingers of a robotic hand, to detect information about what the artificial fingers touched.

For one week, cords snaked from a bandage on Sorensen's arm to the artificial hand, and the electrodes zapped the nerves in proportion to what the sensors detected.

They essentially created a loop that let the robotic hand rapidly communicate with Sorensen's brain.

*In Loving  
Memory of*

# †Manuel Lizama Cruz

Born on May 24, 1943, was  
called by our Lord Jesus Christ  
to his eternal rest on Monday,  
**February 03, 2014**  
at the age of 70

**In His New Life, He Now Joins His:**

<b>Wife:</b>	†Rosamistica Ngirarois Cruz
<b>Grandsons:</b>	†Emmanuel Y. Cruz and †Angel C. Sablan
<b>Parents:</b>	†Vicente Taitingfong Cruz & †Ana Lizama Cruz
<b>Parents-In-Law:</b>	†Ngirarois Erwei & †Obakdil Ngiralbong
<b>Reared Children:</b>	†Vicente Cruz, †Jeffrey Ngirarois, †Shirley Ngirarois & †Brian Ngirarois
<b>Brothers/Sisters:</b>	†Juan L. Cruz, †Pedro L. Cruz, †Maria C. Masga, †Rosa C. Reyes & †Juanita Baleto
<b>Brothers/Sisters-In-Law:</b>	†Magdalena Duenas, †Nicholas Baleto, †Tomiko/†Walter Dale, †Dachelbai Ngirarois, †Phillip Ngirarois, †Victoria Ngirarois, †Margarita Nakamarang

**He will be extremely missed and forever remembered in the hearts of his:**  
**Children/In-Laws & Grand Children:**

Vicente Cruz & Lucia M. Borja (Melanie Rose, Ben Jr., Dachelbai & Denise Ann)
Marvin N. & Juvy Y. Cruz (Germaine, Marvin Jr., Ana Mae)
Ana Marie C. & Henry H. San Nicolas (Marissa, Henry Jr., Guillermmina & Miyako)
Sylvia C. & Jesse P. San Nicolas (Jessilyn)
Laura C. & Chad Ellie B. Palacios (Myrese, Phillip, Chelsery & Chad Jr.)
Marla C. & Rudeinn Sablan (Victor & Victoria)
Manuel Jr. N. & Nattie A. Cruz (John, Audrein, Rose Margaret & Manuel Jr., III)
Manuela A. & Rodel Manlulu (Alfred, Rodel, Romer, Rosalia Mae & Ronny)

**Reared Sons:** Jose D. Cruz, Jeffrey C. Baleto, and Dason (Tino) Camacho  
**Great Grand Children:** Gregorio C. Repeki, Bianca Manlulu & Tiana Mae Manlulu  
**Sister/Brother-In-Law:** Estella C. & Henry DLG. San Nicolas  
**God Children:** †Edward SN. Borja, †Julian A. Manglona, †Gabriel DLC. Santos, Ignacio P. Aquiningoc, Marciano Takasi, William M. Cing, Norbert U. Hofschneider, Robert Reyes Jr., Juan P. Cabrera, Joey SN. Taitano, Christopher B. Evangelista Renato & Ida Pascual, Josie Tanguilan, Robert Mikel, IJ Aquiningoc, Frank Aderuwangl

**Family Friend:**

**He will be additionally missed by numerous nephews, nieces, extended family members and friends.**

Nightly rosary is being said at 8:00 p.m. at Tinian Health Center morgue.

On Tuesday, February 11, 2014, his remains will be brought to San Jose Church at 8:00 a.m. for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. followed by Interment Services at the Tinian Cemetery.

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase'  
Ginen I Familia

# 3 arrested in Hoffman probe face drug charges

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Three of the four people arrested in New York City in the investigation of Philip Seymour Hoffman's death have been arraigned on drug charges.

Lawyers for the three say they had nothing to do with Hoffman's death.

One of the four was charged with heroin possession with the intent to sell. Two were

charged with misdemeanor cocaine possession. The fourth wasn't charged.

Two law enforcement officials say at least one had the actor's cellphone number. The

officials spoke Wednesday to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to talk about evidence in an open investigation.

The Oscar-winning actor was found dead Sunday in his Manhattan apartment. The medical examiner's office says more tests are needed to determine how Hoffman died but police believe he may have overdosed.

At least one of four people taken into custody on drug charges during an investigation of actor Philip Seymour Hoffman's suspected fatal heroin overdose had the actor's cellphone number, two law enforcement officials said Wednesday.

Investigators zeroed in on the four after a tipster, responding to publicity about Hoffman's death, told police he had seen Hoffman at the lower Manhattan apartment building where

they were arrested on Tuesday and he believed that's where Hoffman got the heroin, the officials said.

After obtaining search warrants for two apartments in the building, police found about 350 packets of heroin in one of them, the officials said. They also learned from phone records that one of the suspects had Hoffman's number, strengthening the theory that they may have supplied him with drugs, the officials said.

Some of the packets found in Hoffman's apartment were variously stamped with the ace of hearts and others with the ace of spades. Those found in the building where the arrests occurred had different brand names, including Black List and Panda, the officials said.

The officials weren't authorized to speak about evidence in the ongoing investigation of the death and spoke to The As-

sociated Press on the condition of anonymity.

Police were still waiting for a cause of death for the Oscar-winning actor from the medical examiner's office, which said on Wednesday that more tests were needed.

There was no timetable for Hoffman's autopsy to be finished, said medical examiner's office spokeswoman Julie Bolcer, who declined to discuss the pending tests. Toxicology and tissue tests are typically done in such cases.

Hoffman, 46, was found dead Sunday with a needle in his arm, and tests found heroin in samples from at least 50 packets in his apartment in Manhattan's Greenwich Village, law enforcement officials have said.

The four suspects face charges of criminal possession of a controlled substance. Two also face charges of criminal possession of drug paraphernalia.

## Clay Aiken to run for Congress in North Carolina

**RALEIGH, N.C.** (AP)—Former "American Idol" and "Celebrity Apprentice" runner-up Clay Aiken joined another high-profile contest Wednesday—this one to get elected to Congress in his native North Carolina.

Aiken announced he would seek the Democratic nomination for the 2nd Congressional District seat currently held by Republican Rep. Renee Ellmers. The entertainer is talking about his non-singing career as a special education teacher, UNICEF representative and presidential commission member on education while explaining his reason for getting in the race.

In each situation, "I saw a group of people, a population that was not being served," Aiken told The Associated Press in an interview.

In a video unveiling his bid,

## 'Octomom' faces additional welfare fraud charge

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"Octomom" Nadya Suleman was charged with a fourth count of welfare fraud Wednesday after prosecutors said they discovered she wrongly collected an additional \$10,000 in benefits from the state.

When the single mother of 14 children was charged last month with three counts of fraud, authorities said she didn't disclose about \$30,000 in earnings from videos and personal appearances when she applied for welfare last year.

At the time, they said Suleman owed the state about \$16,000. With Wednesday's charge, that amount rises to about \$26,000.

Suleman's attorney, Arthur J. La Cilento, did not immediately respond to a message left at his office Wednesday.



Aiken referred to his "golden ticket"—finishing as the runner-up to Ruben Studdard in TV's 2003 "Idol" competition, which has led to several albums and a role in a Broadway musical. But he said he empathizes with those struggling in the 2nd District where he lives, referring to his upbringing by a mother who fled domestic violence.

"For most Americans, there are no golden tickets—at least not like the kind you see on TV," he says to the camera. "More families are struggling today than at any time in our history, and here in North Carolina, we've suffered more than our share of pain."

Aiken, 35, is expected to face former state Commerce Secretary Keith Crisco of Asheboro and licensed professional counselor Toni Morris of Fayette-

ville in the Democratic primary in May. Another Democratic hopeful—Houston Barnes of Durham—gave up his bid Wednesday and threw his weight to Aiken. Official candidate filing begins next week.

Aiken said that he considers Washington dysfunctional and that he would focus on jobs, the economy and education. He said the federal health care law needs to be changed but shouldn't be repealed. He supports abortion rights and considers his political philosophy in the broad middle between political extremes—he said he was once a registered independent voter.

"I'm not a politician. I don't ever want to be one," he says in the video. "But I do want to help bring back—at least to my corner of North Carolina—the idea that someone can go to Washington to represent all the people, whether they voted for you or not."

"I'm not a politician. I don't ever want to be one," he says in the video. "But I do want to help bring back—at least to my corner of North Carolina—the idea that someone can go to Washington to represent all the people, whether they voted for you or not."

Aid. The additional count filed Wednesday was another of aid by misrepresentation.

Suleman, whose real name is Natalie Denise Suleman, became famous in 2009 by giving birth to eight children who quickly became the world's longest-surviving octuplets. They celebrated their fifth birthday last month.

Like Suleman's six older children, the octuplets were conceived by in-vitro fertilization. After learning that her physician had actually implanted 12 embryos in her womb, the state Medical Board revoked his license.

Almost from the beginning, Suleman struggled to support the additional children. She defaulted on payments on a house she bought in 2010, and the lender foreclosed.



People listen as actor Eric Bogosian speaks during a candlelight vigil for actor Philip Seymour Hoffman in the courtyard of the Bank Street Theater, home of the Labyrinth Theater Company, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014, in New York.

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**ROBOCOP [CC,DV] (PG-13)**

Wed.-Thur.(415 PM) 710 PM

**LEGO [CC,DV] (PG)**

Fri.(720 PM) 720 PM

Sat.-Sun.(230 PM) 720 PM

Mon.-Thu.(720 PM)

**LEGO 3D [CC,DV] (PG)**

Fri.(455 PM) 945 PM

Sat.(1205 PM) 945 PM

Sun.(1205 PM) 455 PM

Mon.-Thu.(455 PM)

**VAMPIRE ACADEMY [CC,DV] (PG-13)**

Fri.(515 PM) 745 PM 1015 PM

Sat.(1215 245 515) 745 1015

Sun.(1215 245 515) 745

Mon.-Thu.(515 PM) 745 PM

**I, FRANKENSTEIN [CC,DV] (PG-13)**

Fri.(505 PM) 950 PM

Sat.(1235 PM) 950 PM

Sun.(1235 PM) 950 PM

Mon.-Thu.(505 PM)

**I, FRANKENSTEIN 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13)**

Fri.(725 PM)

Sat.-Sun.(250 PM) 725 PM

Mon.-Wed.(725 PM)

**RIDE ALONG [CC,DV] (PG-13)**

Fri.(520 PM) 750 PM 1025 PM

Sat.(1210 235 520) 750 PM

Sun.(1210 235 520) 750 PM

**THE NUT JOB [CC,DV] (NR)**

Fri.(500 PM)

Sat.-Sun.(1230 PM) 240 PM 500 PM

Mon.-Tue.(500 PM)

**THE LEGEND OF HERCULES [CC,DV] (PG-13)**

Fri.-Sat.(710 PM) 930 PM

Sun.-Tue.(710 PM)

**THE WOLF OF WALL STREET [CC,DV] (R)**

Fri.(330 PM) 700 PM 1030 PM

Sat.(1200 330) 700 1030

Sun.(1200 PM) 330 PM 700 PM

Mon.-Thu.(330 PM) 700 PM

**12 YEARS A SLAVE [CC,DV] (R)**

Fri.(400 PM) 715 PM 1010 PM

Sat.(100 400) 715 1010

Sun.(100 PM) 715 PM

Mon.-Thu.(400 PM) 715 PM

**Times For 02/07 - 02/13 www.REGmovies.com**

## Social media erupt over 'Biggest Loser' winner

**MINNEAPOLIS** (AP)—A day after Rachel Fredrickson won the latest season of "The Biggest Loser," after shedding nearly 60 percent of her body weight, attention wasn't focused on her \$250,000 win—but rather the criticism surrounding her loss.

Experts cautioned that regardless of her current weight, the criticism being levied on social media about her losing too much isn't helpful. A more constructive message is needed, they say, centering on overall healthy living and body image.

The 5-foot-4, 24-year-old Frederickson dropped from 260 pounds to 105 under the show's rigorous exercise and diet regimen, and time spent on her own before the finale. She was a three-time state champion swimmer at Stillwater Area High School in Minnesota, then turned to sweets for solace after a failed romance with a foreign exchange student she followed to his native Germany.

Frederickson's newly thin

frame lit up Twitter on Wednesday, with many viewers pointing to the surprised expressions on the faces of trainers Jillian Michaels and Bob Harper during the show's Tuesday night finale. Many tweeted that Fredrickson looked anorexic and unhealthy, while others congratulated her for dropping 155 pounds.

Jillian Lampert, senior director of the Emily Program, an eating disorder treatment program based in St. Paul, said Frederickson's body mass index is below the normal range. But she said the criticism directed against her isn't helpful.

"As a society we often criticize people for being at higher weights—that's part of why we have the TV show 'The Biggest Loser'—and then we feel free to criticize lower weight," Lampert said.

A more constructive message to send young people would center on well-rounded health

and the importance of eating well, moving well and sleeping well, she said.

Suleman, 38, was released on her own recognizance after she pleaded not guilty to the original charges. She has been ordered to return to court March 11 for a pretrial hearing, and the Los Angeles County district attorney's office said she would be arraigned on the fourth count then.

Although she could face as much as six years and four months in jail, Deputy District Attorney William Clark said last month it was unlikely she'd serve that much time, if any.

"She's got 14 children. We'll try and work out a deal for her," he told reporters after she pleaded not guilty to the original charges.

Suleman was originally charged with one count of aid by misrepresentation and two counts of perjury by false application for

## Dylan Farrow's brother defends Woody Allen

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Woody Allen's adopted son has defended him against accusations he molested his then-7-year-old adopted daughter in 1992.

Moses Farrow told People magazine in an interview published Wednesday that Allen "of course" did not molest Moses' younger sister, Dylan Farrow.

Moses Farrow and Dylan Farrow were adopted by Allen and actress Mia Farrow. Dylan Farrow recently wrote an open letter to The New York Times saying she was abused and detailing what she says happened.

New York Times public editor Margaret Sullivan, who had been critical of the Times' handling of Dylan Farrow's accusation, wrote in an online post Wednesday that Allen has requested the opportunity to submit a response to her letter. A spokeswoman for the Times confirmed that Allen's request was granted.

A publicist for Allen earlier



This undated image released by Frances Silver shows Dylan Farrow, daughter of Woody Allen and Mia Farrow. AP

## Discovery to air wingsuit flight off Everest peak

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Discovery Channel plans a live broadcast of the first wingsuit flight off the summit of Mount Everest.

High-altitude climber Joby Ogg will make the attempt in May, and Discovery announced

## Brangelina wine sequel called 'mouthwatering'

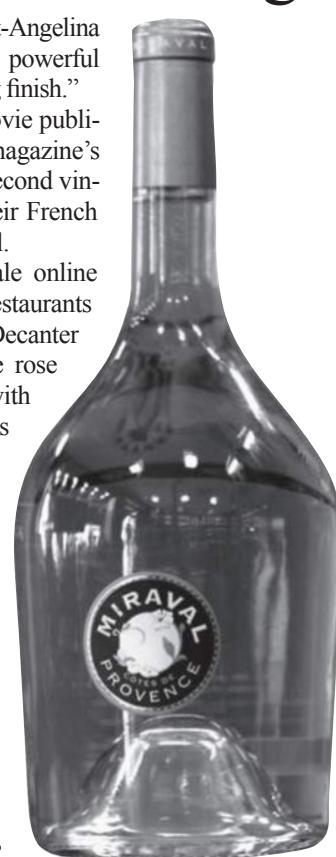
**PARIS** (AP)—The latest Brad Pitt-Angelina Jolie sequel is being described as powerful and elegant with a "mouthwatering finish."

These raves don't appear in movie publications—they're from Decanter magazine's review of the celebrity couple's second vintage of rose wine produced at their French Provencal estate, Chateau Miraval.

The 2013 Miraval goes on sale online Friday and will be in shops and restaurants around the world next month. Decanter describes the Cotes de Provence rose as "charmingly pretty in color" with "a delicate structure that deepens through the palate."

The 2012 vintage, Pitt's and Jolie's first since buying the 500-hectare (1,200 acre) estate, was the highest-ranked rose on Wine Spectator's annual Top 100 wines list.

Around 200,000 bottles of the '13 will be sold for around 15 euros (\$20) each.



A bottle of Miramar 2013 is pictured in Paris, Friday, Jan. 31, 2014. AP

## LeBron James teams up with Starz for comedy series

**NEW YORK** (AP)—LeBron James is no stranger to getting the greenlight to shoot, but this time it's for a scripted comedy series set in the world of professional basketball.

Starz network is giving the go-ahead to its sitcom, "Survivor's Remorse."

The Miami Heat star will serve as an executive producer of the half-hour show. He will team with Tom Werner, a force behind series such as "The Cos-

by Show" and "Roseanne." Actor-writer Mike O'Malley will also be an executive producer.

The story follows Cam Calloway, a basketball phenom in his early twenties who is thrust into prominence after signing a multi-million-dollar contract with a pro team in Atlanta.

The series will shoot in Atlanta. Its six-episode first season airs this fall.

The network didn't announce any cast members.

Wednesday that it will be there to cover it.

The network will air a live two-hour broadcast showing the California native as he battles conditions on the way to the summit of the world's tallest mountain,

This main event will be preceded by shows about Ogg's ex-

then takes the plunge. His custom-made wingsuit will be equipped with cameras to capture the descent of more than 10,000 vertical feet at speeds exceeding 150 mph.

No date has been specified for the broadcast.

## 'The Monuments Men' pulls an A-team cast

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—When a leading Hollywood actor decides to make a movie, casting usually becomes as easy as dialing some of your closest A-list buddies.

At least that's the way it worked for George Clooney on the new World War II drama, "The Monuments Men," opening Friday.

"Well, they are friends so that part is easy," Clooney said in a recent joint interview with the cast. "But you know the truth is, they wouldn't do it if they didn't like the screenplay. ... I mean I flew to Australia for one day to hand Cate (Blanchett) the script."

The beginning of the film has an "Ocean's 11" feel to it when Clooney's character starts to assemble an A-team of old friends. But this time, they're the good guys.

"The Monuments Men"—also starring Blanchett, Matt Damon, John Goodman and Bill Murray, to name a few—is based on the true story of an Allied platoon whose mission was to rescue artworks from the Nazis. The film is adapted from Robert Edsel's book, "The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History."

Blanchett admitted she was unfamiliar with the works of the Monuments Men until she received the hand-delivered script from Clooney, who also directed and was co-writer.

"I knew that work had gone missing and that the Nazis had collected art and stolen art and destroyed art," said Blanchett.

Bill Murray was happy to finally work on a big film again.

pledged that the filmmaker, who has long maintained his innocence, would respond to Dylan Farrow's allegations. Allen did not comment Wednesday on Moses Farrow's interview or his plans for a published response.

Mia Farrow's accusation that Allen had molested Dylan Farrow came during a bitter custody fight. The couple broke up after Mia Farrow discovered that Allen was involved in a relationship with her oldest adopted daughter, Soon-Yi Previn. Allen and Previn later married and have two adopted daughters.

Allen, whose films include "Annie Hall" and "Crimes and Misdemeanors," was never charged with a crime.

Moses Farrow says Dylan Farrow should not go through life with the "false impression" that Allen molested her. Dylan Farrow calls his comments "a betrayal."

tensive training and preparation.

Discovery and TLC Networks boss Eileen O'Neill called Ogg's planned feat "history in the making."

No date has been specified for the broadcast.

## Whirlwind romance deflates over attitudes about race

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been dating someone for about six months. We fell in love very quickly and spend almost every second together.

Our relationship has hit a rough patch ever since he found out that I have dated African-American men. He can't seem to get over it, but he keeps saying he wants to try to make it work. He says cruel things sometimes when he gets mad, and it seems to be on his mind constantly. I don't know what to do or how to make this better. We fell in love, but it seems to be spoiled because of my past.

This isn't a big deal to me. I have always dated people I thought were good people. He seems to view it as disgusting. I thought he was my soul mate because we connected so well on everything else, but I'm afraid he will never get past this issue and I may be wasting my time. What should I do?

ROCKY ROAD IN THE SOUTH

**DEAR ROCKY ROAD:** Give him a hug and let him go. You are the sum total of your experiences and your upbringing, and the same is true of your boyfriend. He comes from a background of racial prejudice. When a person is raised that way, the mindset can be very difficult to change.

As much as you might want to, you can't fix this man; only he can do that. And from your description of him, I don't think he's capable of that kind of growth.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm writing to you in the hope that you will share something with your readers. When I travel, I stay in hotels and it never ceases to amaze me how inconsiderate my fellow travelers can be. Late at night, the drunken party animals carry on, often until the sun rises. Then families with small children invade the halls, and the kids race up and down the halls screaming.

Behind every one of those closed hallway doors there may be a person who is trying to sleep. Fellow travelers, please be considerate! Walk softly and talk quietly in the halls.

And parents, please teach your children manners. This includes not playing noisily where people are trying to sleep.

SLEEPLESS NEAR SEATTLE

**DEAR SLEEPLESS:** I have experienced the same difficulties that you have while traveling. Here's how I deal with it: I pick up the phone and notify the front desk or security if there are rowdy drunks keeping me awake after 10 p.m.—and the same goes for neighbors who have the volume on their television sets turned up so high I can't sleep. If the problem persists, I ask to be moved to a quieter room.

As for the screaming children chasing each other in the hallways—I have been known to poke my sleepy head out the door and ask them to please quiet down. Maybe I have just been lucky, but they usually do.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I was married to my high school sweetheart, "Linda," for 37 years. I am a widower now, going into a new relationship. "Susan" and I are going slow, but we may end up living together in my home.

How do I integrate pictures of Linda with Susan being there? I have one of Linda and the kids, one of the two of us, and a painting of Linda and me together. Eventually I will want one with me and Susan.

How do I make this work? This is all new to me and I don't want to screw this up.

LIGHTNING STRIKES TWICE

**DEAR L.S.T.:** I am a great believer in verbal communication. Like many other things in relationships, this should be discussed and negotiated. Talk to Susan about it and see if she would be comfortable living in your home with these pictures on display. If you plan to combine households, Susan may have some photos of her own she would like to display.

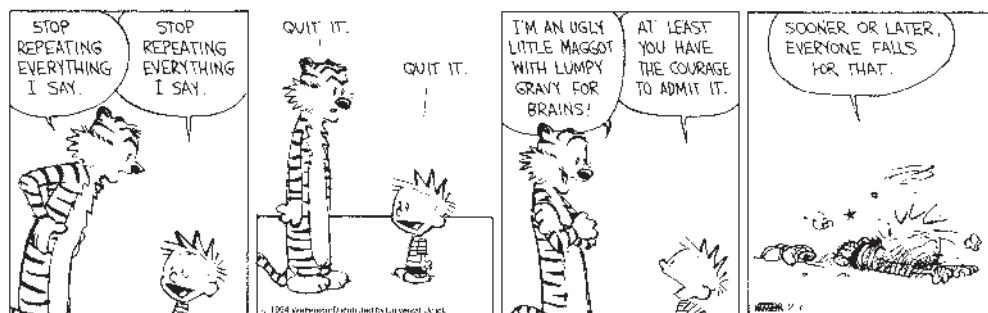
Many women wouldn't object to a picture of you and your late wife. However, the portrait might be a bit much. Perhaps one of your children would like to have it.

*Dear Abby* is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



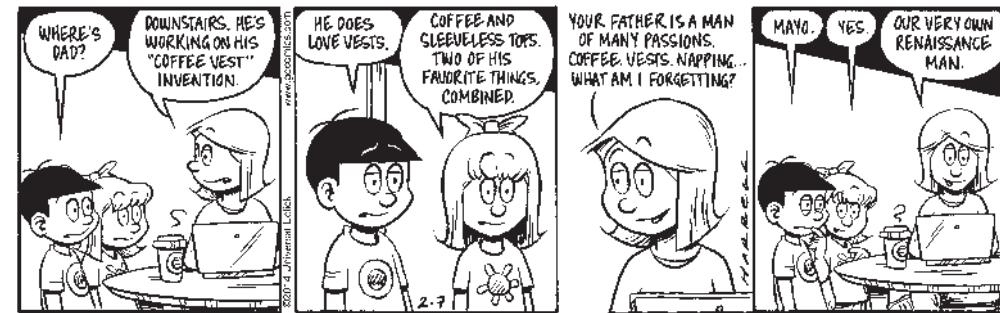
By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



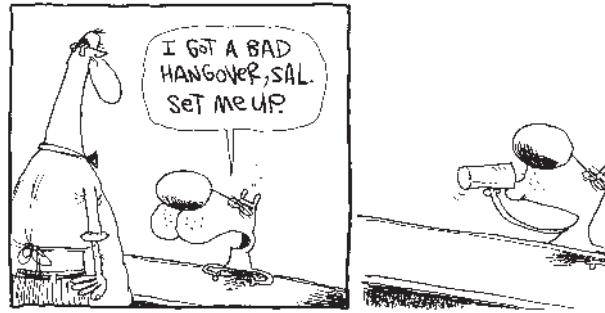
By Jim Davis

## Adam@home

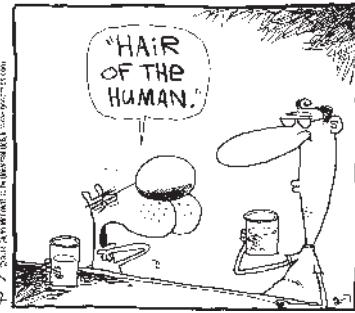


By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

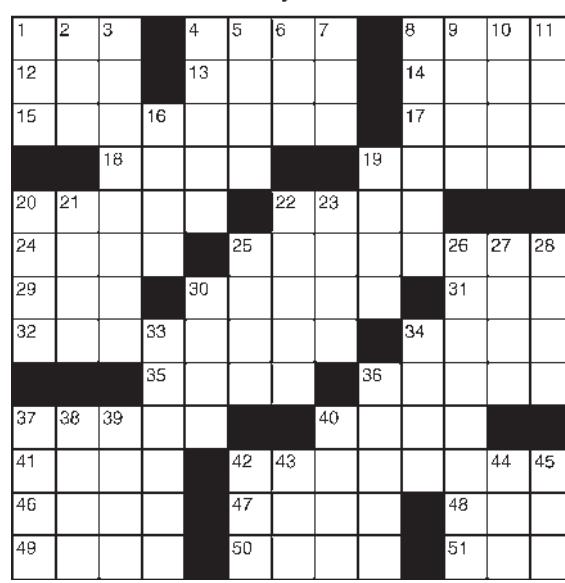
By Eugene Sheffer

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4 Basket-		36 Verse		period		counter-
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Lamar		37 Violinist's		4 Looks		21 Mellows
8 Imperfec-		stroke		5 — of		22 Piece of
tion		40 Oil cartel		Our		information
12 Savings		41 Punch		Lives"		23 Exam
plan		42 Lists		6 Chances,		format
acronym		46 Indulge in		for		25 Infant
13 Stare		voguing		short		26 Subter-
stupidly		47 Spinning		7 Encountered		ranean
14 Apiece		sound		8 Soft felt		cemetery
15 Agent of		48 Cattle		9 Declined		27 Entangle-
change		call		51 Engage in		ment
17 Tragic		49 Eyelid		10 Farm		28 Unaltered
18 Dogfight		woe		fraction		30 Frosty's
participants		50 Diplomacy		11 Sharpen		makeup
19 Lisa of		51 Engage in		33 High point		33 First
"The		pugilism		34 First		victim
Cosby				36 In two		36 In two
Show"				places at		places at
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Ortiz						squad
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nople, now						

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 2-7



For answers to today's crossword, call  
1-800-226-5955 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**STUMPED?**

## CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Ashton Kutcher, 36; Chris Rock, 49; Garth Brooks, 52; James Spader, 54.

**Happy Birthday:** Move forward without looking back. Channel your energy into positive, progressive pastimes that will raise your profile and add to your skill set. Live in the moment and project the possibilities you intend to strive for in the future. Control your life and protect it from anyone trying to stand between you and victory. Put your needs first. Your numbers are 3, 14, 26, 31, 35, 39, 43.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Hard work will pay off. Consider making professional changes or even starting your own business. Your options and opportunities are growing. Take on extra work and you will be praised for your ability to get things done. Keep life simple. **★★**

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Do your own thing. You'll get the response you are looking for if you are innovative, charming and passionate about what you do or have to say. Love is in the stars and romance will enrich your personal life. Make self-improvements. **★★★**

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Double-check any information you receive. Problems dealing with interpretation are apparent. Offer help, but don't overcommit to something that will end up becoming a burden. Put greater emphasis on your personal health and finances. Apply for a better position. **★★**

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Show everyone what you can do. Take on a challenge or learn a new skill. The information you gather and the people you meet along

the way will contribute to your success. Explore unusual avenues and you will discover your creative niche. **★★★**

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't rely on others. Get things done and keep moving. Being responsible for your actions will show your leadership ability and help you gain the confidence of others. A joint venture can improve your current financial situation. **★★★★**

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't give in to emotional blackmail. Size up your situation and make a judgment call based on facts and realistic ideas and plans. A change in a relationship will occur if you mix money matters with friendship. Protect your assets. **★★**

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your timing must be impeccable. Waffling will hinder your position. Signs of indecisiveness will turn you into a liability instead of an asset. Negotiate your position. You can get ahead if you show courage, strength and finesse and ask for what you are worth. **★★★★★**

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make plans to socialize or to spend quality time with someone you love. Romance, creative endeavors and visiting unfamiliar places will motivate you to get involved in new and exciting ventures that can help to improve your personal and financial life. **★★★**

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Listen, but don't take anyone's word. Gather all the information you can and dig deep until you get the facts. A mistake will be difficult to correct, and therefore, any decision or move you make must be based on truth and reason. **★★**

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COURTESY 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider doing things a little differently. Taking what you know works and giving it an unusual twist will attract attention, allowing you to drum up interest in something you want to pursue. Love is highlighted and likely to take an unexpected turn. **★★★★★**

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do what's expected of you. Once you have dealt with your obligations, you will be free and clear to do your own thing and make changes that are conducive to your success, not someone else's. Keep personal plans a secret. **★★**

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Your sweet and congenial way of dealing with people will result in love and romance. You can make a promise or commitment that will help open up greater domestic opportunities. Real estate or other personal investments will be advantageous. **★★★★**

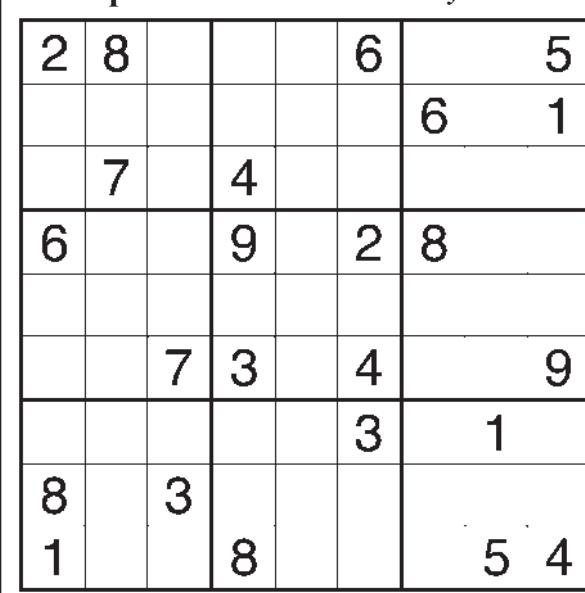
**Birthday Baby:** You are unpredictable, insightful and proactive. You are sensitive and caring.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter/facebook/linkedin).

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

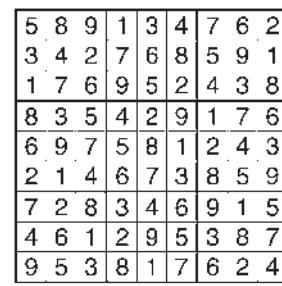
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

2014 WINTER OLYMPICS IN SOCHI

Solution: 12 letters

G	M	F	M	A	S	C	O	T	S	K	G	E	B	D
N	N	A	L	P	A	I	S	S	U	R	K	O	L	E
I	R	I	E	A	E	M	A	G	E	A	L	O	P	N
T	H	E	N	T	G	O	O	B	L	S	G	O	T	I
A	D	L	J	E	C	S	E	F	H	N	L	O	E	B
K	S	Y	S	N	P	C	W	O	I	A	O	L	M	M
S	K	T	Q	Y	I	O	Y	D	R	Y	D	A	O	O
F	I	S	H	T	N	W	R	B	E	A	E	Z	D	C
I	J	E	A	S	O	A	E	K	T	P	D	A	O	C
G	U	E	R	U	O	A	C	E	R	O	M	L	L	I
U	M	R	E	B	R	O	N	Z	E	L	O	P	P	D
R	P	F	W	T	H	C	R	O	T	Y	R	I	H	R
E	I	O	F	S	S	H	A	Y	B	A	O	N	I	O
G	N	I	L	R	U	C	S	W	E	Z	N	E	N	N
S	G	N	I	S	O	L	C	D	R	A	P	O	E	L

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# Depleted Lakers beat Cavaliers, 119-108

**CLEVELAND (AP)**—The Los Angeles Lakers left Robert Sacre on the court after he fouled out in the fourth quarter. Coach Mike D'Antoni felt it was the best move for his depleted team.

It's been that kind of year for the short-handed Lakers.

Los Angeles lost two more players to injuries on Wednesday night and had to go to a little-known NBA rule to hold on for a 119-108 victory against the Cleveland Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

"That was, by far, one of the strangest games I've ever seen," D'Antoni said.

Rookie Ryan Kelly scored a career-high 26 points and Steve Blake had his first career triple-double for Los Angeles, which snapped a seven-game losing streak. The Lakers set a franchise record for 3-pointers, going 18 for 37 from long range.

But Los Angeles' first win in two weeks was overshadowed by a bizarre ending.

The Lakers had eight available players coming into the game. Then Nick Young twisted his left knee in the first half and Chris Kaman fouled out early in the fourth quarter. When Jordan Farmar left with leg cramps in the final period, that put Los Angeles at five players.

Sacre committed his sixth foul with 3:32 remaining, but stayed in the game because D'Antoni was out of healthy bodies. The Lakers were assessed a technical foul.

"That was just crazy," Sacre said. "When I got my sixth foul, I was just like, 'Oh, dang!' Then I got to come back in, so I thought it was something special. I didn't know what was going on."

Each side has to have five players on the court at all times during an NBA game. With the Lakers down to five healthy players, D'Antoni was informed by the officials that he could leave Sacre on the floor and any addition foul on the center would also result in a technical.

"I didn't know about that rule, but it's a nice rule," D'Antoni said with a chuckle.

The Lakers were without Steve Nash (rest), Jodie Meeks (sprained ankle) and Jordan Hill (strained neck). Pau Gasol (groin) and Kobe Bryant (knee) remained in Los Angeles for the three-game road trip.

The situation was so unusual that Nash, who was in street clothes, went to the locker room and put on his uniform late in the game, but D'Antoni said he had no intention of putting the point guard into the game.

"I was not going to go to Nash - it was not an option to us - but the other thing we talked about was having Jordan go out there and just stand in the corner," D'Antoni said. "When the officials came over to explain the options to me, we decided to keep Robert out there. I knew he



Los Angeles Lakers' Robert Sacre, left, shoots over Cleveland Cavaliers' C.J. Miles (0) and Anderson Varejao, right, in the second half of an NBA basketball game on Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014, in Cleveland.

would be smart and not commit too many more fouls."

Nash played for the first time since Nov. 10 on Tuesday night after being out because of a nerve problem in his back. Meeks sprained his right ankle about a minute into Tuesday's game and Hill was elbowed in the head by Kaman.

Farmar scored 21 points and Wesley Johnson added 20 for the Lakers, who shot 53 percent from the field. Blake had 11 points, 15 assists and 10 rebounds.

C.J. Miles led Cleveland with 27 points. All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving was taken out with 7:32 remaining in the third quarter and finished with 11 points as the Cavaliers lost their sixth consecutive game, tying their longest losing streak of the season.

Anderson Varejao was the only starter to play in the fourth quarter as Miles, Anthony Bennett, Matthew Dellavedova and Dion Waiters got the Cavaliers back in the game.

"They definitely deserved to be on the floor," Irving said. "That second group did a heck of a job. You have to give a whole bunch of credit to them. If I were the coach, I would have played that second group as long as he did."

"Maybe we can learn something from what that group did on the floor," Cleveland coach

Mike Brown said. "They played the right way."

The Lakers built a 29-point lead in the second quarter and led 96-68 late in the third period before the Cavaliers rallied. Cleveland cut the lead to 100-90 early in the fourth and got to 114-108 before Blake's 3-pointer with 56.9 seconds left finally sealed the win.

While the Cavaliers were off Tuesday, the Lakers lost in Minnesota and flew through a snowstorm to arrive in Cleveland around 2 a.m. Wednesday.

While Los Angeles had 22 assists on 25 field goals while building a 70-49 halftime lead, Cleveland's offense was stagnant. The Cavaliers shot 37 percent from the field and were 1 of 18 on 3-pointers.

## Heat 116, Clippers 112

In Los Angeles, LeBron James had 31 points, 12 assists and eight rebounds, Ray Allen hit a clinching 3-pointer in the final minute, and Miami snapped a five-game road losing streak against Los Angeles.

Allen had 15 points off the

bench for the two-time defending NBA champions, who began a six-game road trip that will be interrupted four games in by the All-Star break. Dwyane Wade, one of seven Miami players scoring in double figures, had

14 points and eight assists in his 700th regular-season game. The Heat had lost 10 of their previous 12 road games against the Clippers, and hadn't beaten them at Staples Center since Dec. 9, 2007.

Los Angeles got a season-high 43 points and 13 rebounds from Blake Griffin and 31 points from Jamal Crawford.

## Thunder 106, Timberwolves 97

In Oklahoma City, Kevin Durant had 26 points, nine rebounds and seven assists and Oklahoma City won for the 12th time in 13 games, beating a Minnesota team without Kevin Love and two other starters.

Reggie Jackson added 20 points and nine assists to help Oklahoma City become the first team this season to reach 40 wins. The Thunder have won eight straight home games and are 15-1 this season against Western Conference foes at Chesapeake Energy Arena.

Ricky Rubio had 19 points, eight rebounds and five assists for Minnesota.

## Spurs 125, Wizards 118, 2OT

In Washington, Tim Duncan scored a season-high 31 points before fouling out in the second overtime, and San Antonio

gained small-market franchise from the NBA in the spring of 2012.

"Finding a naming rights partner was key to the long-term financial viability of this franchise in this market," Lauscha said.

Benson, who has owned the Saints since 1985, purchased city's NBA franchise—for

\$338 million and has consolidated the headquarters and many of the business operations of both clubs. The hope was that with the two franchises sharing resources and cross-promoting one another, the region could better support two major professional sports teams.

Officials with both the club and Smoothie King declined

beat Washington Wizards for an NBA-high 16th time in a row.

Patty Mills scored 11 of his 23 points in the two overtimes for the Spurs, who haven't lost to the Wizards since Nov. 12, 2005. The Spurs moved ahead of Miami's 15-game domination of Charlotte for the longest current team-vs.-team streak.

Duncan also had 11 rebounds, and Danny Green added 22 points for San Antonio, but Tony Parker left at halftime with tightness in his lower back and did not return.

## Rockets 122, Suns 108

In Houston, Dwight Howard had 34 points and 14 rebounds, James Harden added 23 points and Houston beat Phoenix for its fourth straight victory.

Chandler Parsons and Terrence Jones had 19 points each for Houston.

Goran Dragic had 23 points and eight assists for Phoenix. The Suns have dropped two in a row after winning five straight.

## Trail Blazers 94, Knicks 90

In New York, Nicolas Batum had 20 points and 10 rebounds, Wesley Matthews scored 18 points, and Portland overcame poor-shooting nights by its two All-Stars to beat New York.

LaMarcus Aldridge finished with 15 points and 12 rebounds while shooting 5 of 17 from the floor, and Damian Lillard shot 4 of 12 for his 12 points.

Carmelo Anthony scored 26 points on 11-of-28 shooting for New York.

## Kings 109, Raptors 101

In Sacramento, Calif., DeMarcus Cousins had 25 points and 10 rebounds, Rudy Gay added 24 points and 10 rebounds, and Sacramento held off Toronto to earn its fourth win in five games.

The Kings led by 20 points going into the final quarter, when Toronto got going offensively and cut the lead to five points with under a minute to play. But the Kings converted six free throws in the final minute to seal their second straight victory after losing seven straight.

Kyle Lowry had 21 points, eight assists and seven rebounds for the Raptors. Demar DeRozan scored 18 points, Patrick Patterson 14 and Steve Novak 12, all in the fourth quarter.

Larry Sanders had 25 points and 15 rebounds for short-handed Milwaukee, and Khris Middleton also scored 25 points. The Bucks had nine available players and then lost guard Luke Ridnour to back tightness in the second quarter.

## Mavericks 110, Grizzlies 96

In Memphis, Tenn., Dirk Nowitzki scored 26 points, Brandan Wright added 17 and Dallas used a second-half surge to beat Memphis.

Nowitzki was 10 of 14 from the field, including 3 of 4 from beyond the arc, to help the Mavericks win their third straight. Samuel Dalembert and Monta Ellis had 14 points apiece and Dalembert added 10 rebounds. Vince Carter had 13 points and seven assists.

Zack Randolph scored 25 points for Memphis.

## Nuggets 110, Bucks 100

In Denver, Wilson Chandler scored seven of his 24 points in the final 1:52 and Denver held on to beat Milwaukee.

Ty Lawson had 18 points and 13 assists, and Randy Foye scored 20 points for the Nuggets.

Larry Sanders had 25 points and 15 rebounds for short-handed Milwaukee, and Khris Middleton also scored 25 points. The Bucks had nine available players and then lost guard Luke Ridnour to back tightness in the second quarter.

## Magic 112, Pistons 98

In Orlando, Fla., rookie Victor Oladipo came off the bench to score 20 points, and Glen Davis had 18 to help Orlando beat Detroit.

Josh Smith scored 25 points for Detroit.

## Pelicans arena to be renamed Smoothie King Center

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—The New Orleans Pelicans and Louisiana-based Smoothie King have reached a 10-year agreement to rename the New Orleans Arena as the Smoothie King Center.

Pelicans President Dennis Lauscha said such a deal had been a "gigantic" piece of owner Tom Benson's business plan since he bought the long-strug-

ging small-market franchise from the NBA in the spring of 2012.

"Finding a naming rights partner was key to the long-term financial viability of this franchise in this market," Lauscha said.

Benson, who has owned the Saints since 1985, purchased city's NBA franchise—for

\$338 million and has consolidated the headquarters and many of the business operations of both clubs. The hope was that with the two franchises sharing resources and cross-promoting one another, the region could better support two major professional sports teams.

Officials with both the club and Smoothie King declined

to release financial terms of the deal, which also gives Smoothie King an option for a 10-year extension.

Smoothie King owner Wan Kim said sponsoring an NBA arena in New Orleans helps his company demonstrate its commitment to the community where it is based while promoting its brand globally.

# Seattle comes alive as huge crowds cheer Seahawks

**SEATTLE** (AP)—Amid the 700,000 fans who jammed downtown Seattle to celebrate the city's first Super Bowl win stood Mark Formanczyk, 57-year-old man in a Seahawks jersey and a camouflage jacket, weeping in the parking lot outside the team's stadium.

"I'm crying! I'm crying ... and I love it!" he said, pulling off his sunglasses to show the tears. "I believed in Seattle years ago when I first moved here, and they finally came through. They brought this city alive!"

Bundled in blue-and-green Seahawks gear—hats, shirts, jackets, stickers and wigs—the fans packed the sidewalks and streets along a 2-mile parade route, standing shoulder to shoulder on a freezing, clear day for a community catharsis after 35 years without a major sports title.

They roared and chanted as the team rolled by on amphibious "Ride the Ducks" vehicles usually reserved for tourists. Running back Marshawn Lynch sat on the hood of a vehicle carrying the Sea Gals cheerleaders. He tossed Skittles—his favorite treat—into the crowd.

Other Seahawks players threw jerseys and T-shirts to fans while waving blue "12"

flags in honor of the 12th man, the fans.

"This is a historical event, once in a lifetime. To not show up would be blasphemy," said Jesse Lake, 36, a carpenter from Port Orchard, who stood in the packed parking lot outside CenturyLink Field to greet the team as they arrived.

Nearby, 23-year-old cook Jesse Rea, of Edmonds, watched highlights of the season on two massive screens, then belled loud cheers for the players as they were introduced to the crowd inside the stadium.

"It's overwhelming to see how much the city is supporting this," he said. "Finally we are able to see how much love and respect we have. What the 12th man means to me—they made me feel as much a part of this team as the players."

Thousands of students skipped school to attend. Seattle Public Schools said more than 25 percent of the district's 51,000 students were absent in the morning. By comparison, about 5 percent were absent the day before. The school district also said 565 teachers were ab-

sent, far more than usual.

Dakota Heaphy, 20, and friend Ellie Hergert, 20, drove all night from Cheyenne, Wyo.—more than 1,400 miles away.

"My boss is a Broncos fan and said we kicked their butts and deserved to go," Hergert said.

The Seahawks' 43-8 victory over the Denver Broncos Sunday gave Seattle its first major men's sports championship since the SuperSonics won the NBA title in 1979.

Along the parade route, which ended at CenturyLink Field, the Washington National Guard chauffeured some players in Humvees. Elected officials rode along, too.

Boisterous fans observed a "moment of loudness" at 12:12 p.m. Crowds also gathered in Spokane, Olympia and elsewhere in the state to celebrate.

Many fans had camped out overnight to reserve front-row seats along the route, braving freezing temperatures. Others perched on window sills and balconies, climbed trees and pillars, or sat on sturdier shoulders to get a better view.

At Westlake Center, smartphones and cameras were thrust

into the air whenever players rolled by.

Seattle city officials asked the public to keep cellphone use to a minimum to keep lines free for emergency use. There were some reported difficulties with 911 calls getting through, said

Jeff Reading, a spokesman for the mayor.

At a ceremony inside the stadium following the parade, the team thanked its loyal followers.

Players were introduced by the order of their jersey numbers

and ended with No. 3, quarterback Russell Wilson, who walked onto the field pumping the Lombardi Trophy in the air to thunderous applause.

"Our plan is to win another one for you next year," Wilson said later.

## Source: Vikings' Cassel voids 2014 option

By DAVE CAMPBELL and DAVE SKRETTA

AP SPORTS WRITERS

The Minnesota Vikings already had a lot of work to do with their quarterback situation this offseason.

The list just got longer.

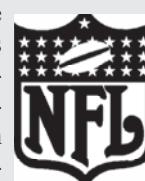
Matt Cassel will void the 2014 option on his contract and become a free agent, a person familiar with his decision told The Associated Press on Wednesday. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the situation.

Though the Vikings could've also cut him before paying a roster bonus next month, Cassel would've made \$3.7 million this year had he not opted out, the same amount he made in the 2013 season. Let go by the Kansas City Chiefs last year, Cassel signed with the Vikings as the backup to Christian Ponder

but finished the season as the starter.

Cassel was on the field at the end of all five of Minnesota's victories this year, three as the starter and two in relief of an injured Ponder. He appeared in nine games, and the Vikings went 3-3 in his six starts. With 11 touchdowns, nine interceptions, a 60.2 completion percentage, and an average of 239.8 yards passing per start, Cassel was by far the best quarterback on the roster. Ponder struggled, got hurt and sputtered again when given the job back. Josh Freeman played one infamously rough game.

Freeman will also be a free agent. Ponder has one year left on the rookie contract he received in 2011, when the Vikings drafted him with the 12th overall selection. This year, the Vikings pick eighth in the first round, with quarterback again



Given his NFL experience and the familiarity he developed with wide receivers Greg Jennings and Cordarrelle Patterson and the others on the offense this season, Cassel would be the ideal veteran to bring back while the staff under new coach Mike Zimmer develops a rookie. His last two years with the Chiefs weren't pretty, but in 2010 he made the Pro Bowl. He also had a strong season for the New England Patriots in 2008 after Tom Brady was hurt in the first game.

## Curt Schilling announces he has cancer



H A R T -  
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(AP)—Former pitcher Curt Schilling announced Wednesday that he is battling cancer.

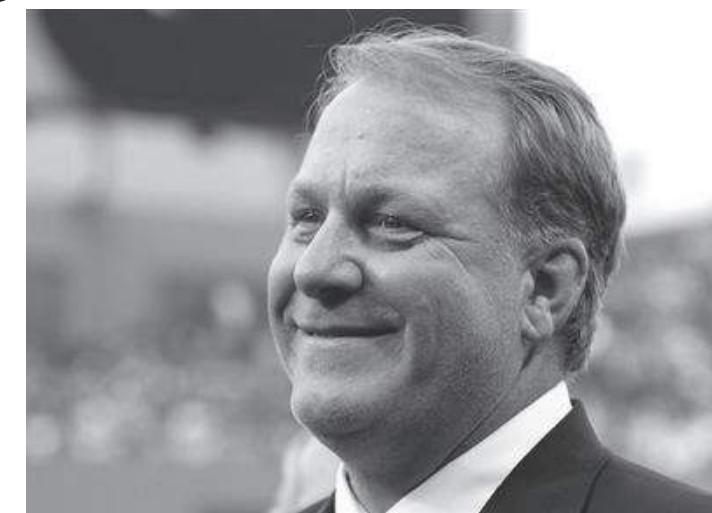
The 47-year-old Schilling divulged the news in a statement released through his employer, Bristol-based ESPN. It did not indicate what type of cancer Schilling has, when he was diagnosed or what his prognosis might be.

"With my incredibly talented medical team I'm ready to try and win another big game," said Schilling, who retired in 2009 after 20 years in the major leagues.

"I've been so very blessed and I feel grateful for what God has allowed my family to have and experience, and I'll embrace this fight just like the rest of them, with resolute faith and head on."

ESPN spokesman Mike Soltys said Schilling is taking a leave of absence. He recently signed a multiyear contract extension with the network and was to be part of the "Sunday Night Baseball" broadcast team, as well as contribute to the network's studio coverage, including its spring training coverage, Soltys said.

"Our thoughts are with Curt and his family during this challenging time," the Bristol-based network said in a statement. "His ESPN teammates wish him continued strength in his



This Aug. 3, 2012 file photo shows former Boston Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling after being introduced as a new member of the Boston Red Sox Hall of Fame at Fenway Park in Boston.

cancer fight and we look forward to welcoming him back to our baseball coverage whenever he's ready".

Schilling played for five teams during his Major League career. He won three world championships, with the Arizona Diamondbacks (2001) and Boston Red Sox (2004, 2007), sharing the World Series MVP award with teammate Randy Johnson in 2001.

He won 216 games and struck out 3,116 batters during his career, but is perhaps best known for pitching in the 2004 ALCS and World Series after having stitches to mend an ankle injury. His bloody sock was later put on display in Cooperstown.

Schilling has been in the news recently after the failure of 38 Studios, a video game com-

pany he owned in Rhode Island, with the help of a \$75 million state loan guarantee. The company went bankrupt last year, leaving Rhode Island taxpayers on the hook to pay back tens of millions of dollars.

Schilling said he invested and lost as much as \$50 million.

This is not the first time he and his family have battled health issues.

Schilling recently revealed he suffered a heart attack in November 2011. His wife, Shonda, successfully battled melanoma in 2001.

His daughter, Gabby, took to Twitter on Wednesday to ask for prayers for her father.

"So i guess the word is out, if everyone could just keep my dad and family in their prayers it would mean a lot!" she wrote.



The Super Bowl champions parade past Westlake Park, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014, in Seattle. The Seahawks defeated the Denver Broncos 43-8 on Sunday.

# Braves barge into win column

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Ricky Joe Renguel towed the NSA Braves to an easy 11-2 win over the Lions at the resumption of play in the Big League division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball last Tuesday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Renguel pitched in no relief for the Braves and struck out 13 batters to give last year's finalists their first win of the season. The Braves bowed to defending champion Padres, 2-5, during the league opener last Jan. 18 and last Tuesday's match was only the second in the Big League as games were rained-out for nearly two weeks.

The right-handed pitcher, who came off the bench for the Braves in their game against the Padres, this time started out for his team and began his string of strikeouts by knocking off Lions leadoff batter Gino



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Braves' Ricky Joe Renguel delivers a pitch to the Lions during the bottom of the fifth inning of the Big League game last Tuesday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

## IT&E

*From Page 32*

runs and one off an error at the bottom of the fifth, while IT&E bagged one off Philip Kapileo's RBI double at the top.

Wary of Red Sox's comeback bid, IT&E nailed two more runs at the top of the sixth to gain some distance, 11-6. Kapileo blasted an RBI double and he also made it home off

Philip Kapileo's single.

The Red Sox answered with two runs at the bottom of the last inning with only one out to stay in contention, but Kyle Kapileo got the needed two outs to secure the win for IT&E, as he struck out Zachary Camacho and Kevin Foreman, leaving a runner stranded at second.

### Comets II 12, Jets 2

In other results in last week-

end's Major division game, Comets II needed only four innings to bring down the Jets and take its first win of the season.

Comets II (1-1) earned the victory via the 10-run mercy rule after hitting its target in the last two innings. The eventual winners, who scored only two runs in the first two innings off a wild pitch and a stolen base, collected six runs in the third and four in

Dela Cruz. Renguel got another strikeout and the Braves closed out the bottom of the first down by only one, as they stranded one runner at second by catching a fly ball at left field.

The Lions bagged their first run off an error from Braves shortstop Ray-Ray Saralu, but that was the only time they led in the lead, as the Braves quickly grabbed the upper hand in the second inning, 4-1, off Frankie Lieto's three-run double.

The Braves went on to pad their lead in the remaining five innings, as they capitalized on the Lions' defensive lapses and Renguel's outstanding pitching. The Braves got six runs from the Lions' miscues, while Renguel allowed only two hits and one earned run in the last five innings. The Lions' other second run was courtesy of Keone Deleon Guerrero, who made it home in the fourth inning off a Paul Celis single.

It was also in the fourth inning that Renguel failed to register a single strikeout. He had two each in the second and third

innings. Ric Teregeyo hit a two-run triple in the third and also made it off a Jets miscue, while the three runs were courtesy of passed balls and booboos from catcher Froilan Camacho. The four other runs were recorded off two wild pitches and two errors at the top of the fourth.

At the bottom of the fourth, the Jets (0-2) finally scored off Camacho's two-run hom

er, but that was not enough to help his team extend the game, as Comets II got two quick outs and after starting pitcher Alvin Hocog walked fifth batter James Salalila, sixth batter Jon Paul Sablan was beaten to first for the third out.

Before giving up a homer in the fourth inning, Hocog allowed only one hit and struck out six runners.

snapped a two-game losing skid after slipping past Kagman varsity. The Lady Knights worked out a 25-22 win in the first set, but failed to finish off Kagman early, as the Lady Ayuyus nailed a 25-14 win in the second set. Mt. Carmel then recovered in the third with a 15-10 decision to stay in third place with its 4-2 slate.

In other results last Tuesday, GCA notched its fifth win after outclassing SIS JV on the north court, 25-16, 25-17, 15-11. On the southern end, SIS recorded a similar three-set win over MHS JV, 25-17, 25-16, 15-12, to grab a share of the lead with the Lady Eagles.

In the second game on the south court, Mt. Carmel

also had 14 markers in his first game with the Rays. Jonathan Santos led Kagman with his 25 markers, but was held to 4 points in the fourth, while Jesse Santos added 20, with most of them coming in the second half. Lampkin had a quiet 7 points, as he struggled against Southern's frontliners.

Meanwhile, Kagman won in its junior varsity game against Southern in the curtain-raiser, 57-46.

The Rays kept up with the Ayuyus in the first period and even took a shaky 12-11 lead before the latter controlled the remaining three quarters of the match. Kagman nearly doubled its first period output in the second half, scoring 20 to grab the upper hand at the break, 31-23. The Ayuyus retained the lead, as the Rays failed to make a rally and settled for trading baskets with the former in the

second half.

Michael Muna paced Kagman with his 20 points, while Roke Tenorio contributed 16.

Elnathan Wong had 12 for Southern.

### Junior Varsity

KHS 57 – Muna 20, Tenorio 16, Castro 7, Retan 6, Jones 4.

SSHS 46 – Wong 12, Borromeo 9, Taitano 9, Rivera 6, Anderson 5, Espinosa 2, DeLoen Guerrero 2, Bondoc 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 11-12, 31-23, 42-34, 57-46.

### Varsity

SSHS 62 – Camacho 15, Feria 14, Warren 14, Kintaro 8, Javier 6, Ferrer 3.

KHS 60 – Jo. Santos 25, Je. Santos 20, Lampkin 7, Sakisat 3, Palino 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 10-18, 27-30, 38-46, 62-60.

Also doing a good job for the Braves were Lieto, who went only 2-for-5 at the plate, but tallied four RBIs, and Lucio Kalen and Henry Rabauliman, who scored three runs apiece.

### Pacquiao out to show Bradley his killer instinct

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Manny Pacquiao is out to show Timothy Bradley that he still has a "killer instinct."

Pacquiao was in New York on Wednesday as part of a media tour to promote his rematch with Bradley on April 12 in Las Vegas. Bradley beat Pacquiao in 2012 in a hotly disputed split decision.

At a news conference on Tuesday in southern California, Bradley said the 35-year-old Pacquiao still has skills, but the former welterweight champion's "killer instinct is gone."

In an interview with The Associated Press, Pacquiao said he takes that as a challenge.

"The aggressiveness and killer instinct, I have that, but sometimes I'm too nice with my op-

Pacquiao, who is a congressman back home in the Philippines, lost to Bradley and was knocked out by Juan Manuel Marquez six months later in 2012. He didn't fight again for almost a year before beating Brandon Rio in a decisive unanimous decision in November.

During that time he ran for re-election—unopposed—and he helped his wife run for office, too.

"I don't lose my passion or my desire to fight," Pacquiao said. "It's part of boxing. Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose."

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	26	23	.531	–
Brooklyn	21	25	.457	3½
New York	19	30	.388	7
Boston	17	33	.340	9½
Philadelphia	15	35	.300	11½

#### Southeast Division

Miami	35	13	.729	–
Atlanta	25	23	.521	10
Washington	24	24	.500	11
Charlotte	22	28	.440	14
Orlando	14	37	.275	22½

#### Central Division

Indiana	38	10	.792	–
Chicago	24	24	.500	14
Detroit	19	29	.396	19
Cleveland	16	33	.327	22½
Milwaukee	9	40	.184	29½

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Southwest Division

San Antonio	36	13	.735	–
Houston	33	17	.660	3½
Dallas	29	21	.580	7½
Memphis	26	22	.542	9½
New Orleans	21	27	.438	14½

##### Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	40	11	.784	–
Portland	35	14	.714	4
Denver	24	23	.511	14
Minnesota	24	25	.490	15
Utah	16	32	.333	22½

##### Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	34	18	.654	–
Golden State	29	20	.592	3½
Phoenix	29	20	.592	3½
L.A. Lakers	17	32	.347	15½
Sacramento	17	32	.347	15½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# CNMI Team vs Japan Soccer College

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



CNMI Team goalie Johann Noetzel throws the ball during the first half of their friendly game against Japan Soccer College yesterday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



CNMI Team's Joel Fruit is held by a Japan Soccer College defender.



A Japan Soccer College player keeps the ball away from CNMI's Trey Dunn.



CNMI Team's Joe Miller, center, is greeted by teammate Jahn Joyner after the former scored.



CNMI Team's Ruselle Zapanta and a Japan Soccer College player fall on the ground as they battle for possession.



A Japan Soccer College player hangs on to the jersey of a CNMI Team player.



Japan Soccer College players go for a header after the corner kick.



Two CNMI Team players stay on defense, as a Japan Soccer School striker attacks.



Depleted Lakers  
beat Cavaliers,  
119-108

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Seattle comes alive  
as huge crowds cheer  
Seahawks

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## IT&E still unbeaten in Major division



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
An IT&E batter lets go of a low ball during an earlier game in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

IT&E kept its immaculate record in the Major division of the 2014 Saipan Little League Baseball League after defeating the Red Sox, 11-8, last Sunday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The win was the third in a row for IT&E, which is now in the solo lead in the 15-team field. The Red Sox absorbed their first loss after winning their opener against the Jets late last month.

IT&E outhit the Red Sox in the first four innings and held strong in the last two to save the three-run victory. After a so-so offense in the first two innings that saw IT&E score only two runs, the division leader racked up six runs in the third to open an 8-2 advantage. IT&E got four runs off Red Sox errors and Kyle Kapileo and Josh Cama-

### RELATED NEWS

► Braves barge into win column.

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Dickinson was IT&E's starting pitcher and though he gave up two earned runs and three hits in 4.4 innings pitched, he struck out eight to give his team enough cushion. The Red Sox got the two runs in the third inning off Kiana Aldan's single and with Dickinson on the bench for Kapileo, the former notched four more runs in the fifth to move within three, 6-9. The Red Sox had three earned

See IT&E on Page 32



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Grace Christian Academy's Zena Demapan goes for a spike against Saipan International School during their game in the MISO volleyball league yesterday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

## MHS still on top; GCA, SIS tied for second

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Marianas High School extended its winning run to six to keep its distance against Saipan International School and Grace Christian Academy in the 2013-2014 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Volleyball League.

The Lady Dolphins swept

SIS JV last Jan. 30, 25-18, 25-12, 15-7, at the MHS Gymnasium to remain perfect (6-0) in the nine-team field and retain its lead against SIS Varsity and GCA, which hold identical 5-1 slates.

The Lady Eagles also played last Jan. 30, while SIS took a break last week before dueling

MHS JV last Tuesday. The defending champion GCA recovered from an opening-set loss versus Mount Carmel School to hand the Lady Knights their second defeat in

the double-round robin competition. Mt. Carmel took the first set, 18-25, but missed the vic-



tory after the Lady Eagles swept the last two, 25-17, 17-15.

In the two other games last Jan. 30, Kagman High School's varsity team finally barged into the win column after showing no love to its junior squad, while MHS JV earned its third victory after downing Saipan Southern High School.

The all-KHS duel on the See MHS on Page 32

## Southern hands Kagman third straight loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School added to Kagman High School's woes as the Rays eked out a 62-60 win in their varsity game in the 2013-2014 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Boys Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Southern notched its third consecutive win after a 0-2 start to move up to second place behind the unbeaten MHS Dolphins (5-0), while the Ayuyus continued its slide, absorbing their third straight loss after sweeping their

first two games. Southern also avenged its 87-91 defeat to Kagman in the first round.

The Ayuyus failed to end their skid after Jason Lampkin missed key free throws in the last two minutes of the match and a potential go-ahead basket in the closing seconds, while Southern showed poise in the clutch, getting a jumper from Jun Javier and a split free throw from another big man Daniel Camacho.

The Kagman center muffed two charities that would have broken the deadlock, 59-all, with 1:37 left in the match. A banked triple from Melvin Sakisat allowed Kagman to tie the match just before the last two

See SOUTHERN on Page 32



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Saipan Southern High School's James Kintaro tries to keep his balance, as three Kagman High School defenders gang up on him in the paint during the fourth quarter of their varsity game in the MISO caging last Wednesday night at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.